

HINDI IMPOSITION PAPERS

Volume 1

Principal Articles

A Broad Look at India's Official Language Policy

Thanjai Nalankilli

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Volume 1 **Principal Articles** **A Broad Look at India's Official Language Policy**

by
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Hindi Imposition Papers

All You Wanted to Know about Hindi imposition and More

This fifteen-volumes book contains over 100 articles on the subject of Hindi imposition in India. Researchers, scholars, historians and students who want to get an in-depth understanding of India's language policy may go through these articles one by one. Others may casually browse through these volumes, stopping to read those articles that interest them. You may find lots of interesting and useful information in these articles.

Even if you are reading these articles a hundred years from now, these articles will tell you the history of the development and evolution of India's Hindi imposition policies and opposition to it, starting from 1938 to 2019. This is part of Indian history. India's language problem is an ongoing problem. We do not know where all this will lead to and how this will end.

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Preface

Thanjai Nalankilli

Official language was one of the most contentious issues discussed in the Indian Constituent Assembly (Indian Constitution Assembly). After lengthy debates, Hindi was made the official language of India from January 26, 1950, by a majority vote. Since most people, including many government officials did not know Hindi, the constitution assembly "graciously" agreed to give a 15-years grace period for non-Hindi peoples to learn Hindi. English would remain as official language along with Hindi for 15 years; that is until January 26, 1965.

Because of the opposition from some Hindi states, especially from Madras State (much of Madras State would later become Tamil Nadu State), Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru promised that English would continue as the official language alongside Hindi as long as non-Hindi states wanted it.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), one of the Tamil Nadu political parties that opposed Hindi imposition, asked its cadres to raise black flags instead of the tri-color Indian national flag on January 26, 1965. Most top leaders of DMK were arrested prior to January 26 to prevent demonstrations on January 26 (which is celebrated as the Indian Republic Day).

Tamil Nadu Students Anti-Hindi Imposition Agitation rocked Tamil Nadu starting from January 25, 1965 to mid-February. Police and military were brought in from other states to put down the agitation. By the time the agitation ended, police and military had shot and killed 63 unarmed civilians and injured many more.

In the next parliamentary and state legislative assembly elections held in 1967, DMK that symbolized resistance to Hindi won landslide victory in Tamil Nadu. Congress Party which ruled Tamil Nadu State until the 1967 elections, and symbolized Hindi imposition (in the minds of Tamil people) lost heavily in the state. DMK formed the state government under Chief Minister C. N. Annadurai (widely known as Aijnar Anna) who had been sent in the past to prison many times for demonstrating against Hindi imposition.

Congress Party or any other all-India party (which are supportive of Indian government's Hindi policy) never again came to power in the state as of this writing (2019). DMK or its offshoot All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK or simply ADMK) won state legislative assembly elections and formed the state government ever since 1967.

State governments have no say in Indian government's language policy (Hindi policy). Every Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and state government since 1967 had opposed Indian government's language policy.

As a consequence of the 1965 Anti-Hindi Agitations, Indian parliament passed a law allowing the continued use of English alongside Hindi as long as the non-Hindi states want it (the so-called "two-language formula"). It does not prevent the Indian government from imposing Hindi on non-Hindi peoples. What is Hindi imposition? It does not mean soldiers or police putting a gun to your head and forcing you to speak Hindi. Forcing or pressuring employees of the Indian government and its undertakings (banks, life insurance corporation) to learn Hindi and work in Hindi is Hindi imposition.

There is also Hindi supremacy based discrimination of non-Hindi peoples. Many Indian government staff selection examinations are held in Hindi and English only. While Hindi people can write the examinations in their mother tongue, non-Hindi aspirants are forced to write in one of two alien languages--Hindi or English. Is it not discrimination? A type of language apartheid?

This fifteen-volumes book contains over 100 articles on the subject of Hindi imposition. This first volume "Principal Articles" contains 14 articles providing an overview of the subject.

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1. A Comprehensive Programme to Protect Indian Languages (A Language Bill of Rights for India)

Thanjai Nalankilli

OUTLINE

Fundamental Language Rights of States

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- Appendix-I: A Proposed Course of Action
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ABBREVIATIONS

CBSE - Central Board of Secondary Education
IAS - Indian Administrative Service
IPS - Indian Police Service
LBOR - Language Bill of Rights
SOL - State Official Language

DEFINITION

For the purposes of this article, we call a language as Indian language if it is the mother tongue of a sizable population of India. A language like Bengali is actually a South Asian language and not specifically an Indian language because it is the "language of the soil" in both the Indian state of West Bengal and also the country of Bangladesh. For the purposes of this article we refer to Bengali and other such languages as an Indian languages.

Fundamental Language Rights of States

"People of every state have the right to conduct all transactions with businesses and central, state and local government offices within the state in the state official language."

1. Introduction

People of the Indian Union speak over two dozen major languages. Thirteen of these languages are the mother tongue of over 10 million people each, according to the 2001 census report. Also, people of each of these languages are concentrated in specific geographical regions larger than many countries. There is great fear among scholars that these languages, except for Hindi, are less and less utilized in business and government communications. Unless this trend is reversed, there is danger that these languages would become useless and "semi-dead, zombie languages" in a century or two. The only exception is Hindi because of the Indian government power and patronage. In recent years parents are sending their children to English-medium schools because of their perception, rightly so, that knowledge of their mother tongue is not necessary for securing jobs, except in the case of Hindi.

Linguistic states were promised before independence and created after independence reluctantly for the very purpose of protecting Indian languages. So the primary responsibility of protecting Indian languages rests with state governments with some responsibility from local-body governments as well as the Indian central government.

We present here some specific actions the central, state and local-body governments have to take in order to protect Indian languages. People of some states may want to go beyond this minimum programme and that is their choice and right.

2. State Governments

The very purpose of forming linguistic states was to protect and nourish Indian languages. Usually this responsibility lies with the national government but since India was created as a multi-lingual country, linguistic states were formed and the responsibility falls on state governments. Most state governments, however, get a failing grade in this respect. Many states have passed laws declaring the state language as official language but have not enforced it. Some states have even created ministries or departments for developing the state language but they have not done much to enforce government work be done in the state language. Having thus succinctly reviewed the current sorry state, we provide here specific actions that state governments must do to give state languages their due place in state/local-body offices, educational institutions and businesses.

2-1

All state government communications within and among its offices and to residents and businesses of the state shall be in the state official language (SOL). English translations may be attached to multi-national corporations operating in the state.

2-2

All state government employees must be proficient in the state official language (SOL). Those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school shall be required to pass a language examination before appointment. Level of the examination shall be commensurate with job duties. State government must set up, may be, three or four levels of examinations for different job categories. In general, if the job

requires high school education or higher then the employee must be proficient at least at the high school level. There shall be no exceptions.

Only those who have studied the language at school or pass the required language proficiency examination shall be hired. We do not hire someone and ask him/her to pass high school or get a college degree; we hire only those who have the required educational qualifications. Same should be the criterion for language proficiency also. This applies to all new hires.

Those who are already on the job, but do not have sufficient proficiency in SOL, shall be given one year of language training and required to pass the examination or lose the job. This is the only way state official languages can take their place in government offices.

2-3

Only IAS/IPS officers who can do their job in the state official language (SOL) should be appointed to state government jobs. [We discuss this point in some detail because **IAS/IPS officers who do not know the state language is the biggest roadblock** to state languages becoming state official languages--not just in paper but in reality.]

Top state government administrative and police posts are held by IAS and IPS officers. These posts include secretaries in state government ministries, district collectors, director-generals of police and commissioners of police. Some of these officers are from out-of-state and do not know the state official language. They may attend some rudimentary crash course but it is nowhere near sufficient to do their work in the SOL; the only exception is Hindi because all IAS and IPS officers must be sufficiently proficient in Hindi. These out-of-state officers, thus not proficient in the SOL, write letters and memoranda, make phone calls and hold meetings in English or Hindi. How can the "state official language" really become the state official language under this circumstance? The use of English or Hindi by top state government officials percolates downwards. Only way to stop this is by appointing only those who know the state language all the way from top to bottom.

The argument against forcing these out-of-state officers to learn the necessary level of SOL is that they are transferred often from state to state or transferred to central government jobs and they cannot be expected to learn the state language. This undermines the very purpose of creating linguistic states. Linguistic states were formed for the sole purpose of the state language becoming the communication media in state government and businesses. If the shoe does not fit the feet, you do not cut the feet, you wear a bigger shoe! If transferring IAS/IPS officers from state to state is an impediment to the state official language policy, you stop the practice of transferring IAS/IPS officers. We do not see a need to transfer IAS/IPS officers from state to state. Let them serve their career in a single state. Use of the language of the people in state governance is more important than transferring officers from state to state. Here are some practical suggestions.

2.3.1

Appoint IAS/IPS officers in their home states. Indian government can always increase the IAS/IPS quota for the state to match vacant positions. We do not say that there are not sufficient IAS officers in India and we need to appoint people from neighboring countries; we select each year as many IAS officers as required for that year. Do the same for each state. Another alternative: Currently two-thirds of all senior police officers are filled by IPS cadres and the remaining is promoted from respective state cadre officers. Amend this procedure to promote more officers from state cadres if sufficient IPS cadres who know the state language are not available.

2.3.2

If an IAS/IPS officer who does not know the state language wants to work in the state, they must first pass an appropriate level language examination set by the state. Adequate knowledge of the state language should be a requirement for state government jobs. We do not appoint someone as an accountant unless he/she has passed the necessary accounting courses. Why should we appoint someone as district collector in Karnataka if he/she does not know the language of the people--Kannada? Or, why should we appoint someone who does not know Malayalam as Director General of Police in Kerala? It does not make sense. Yet this is done frequently. This must change immediately. State governments must insist on it.

2.3.3

Those out-of-state IAS/IPS officers who are already in state government positions should be given the option to transfer to their own states or go through a one year intensive language training. State government should give them a one-year paid absence from job and pay for the language training if they agree to work in the state until their retirement and pass the final examination. This money is well spent if it would help making the state language the official language.

2.3.4

A few years ago a state government minister announced in the Tamil Nadu state assembly that the state government would take action against those government employees who do not sign their names in the state language. There was applause from the assembly members. Why the applause? Why are we setting our goals so low? Applaud when the minister announces that anyone who does not do all work in the state language would be fired.

A Maharashtra minister told that ministers talk to IAS officers in Marathi even if they are from out-of-state. I commend the minister for his love of Marathi but we should not rest until all work is done in Marathi.

2-4

All court proceedings in the state including high court proceedings must be in the state official language (SOL). This, of course, requires that **all judges and lawyers working in the state be proficient in the state language.**

A major roadblock to this is the appointment of high court judges who are from other states and do not know the SOL. Even after repeated state government requests to the Indian central government to allow state language in high courts nothing has happened (Hindi states are not affected because Hindi is allowed in those states; only in non-Hindi states have the state languages become outcasts in high courts.) Indian government points the finger to the Supreme Court saying that it is the Supreme Court that is against using state languages in high courts, except in the case of Hindi states. Supreme Court cannot come in the way of the very purpose of creating linguistic states. It must immediately explain why it allows Hindi in the high courts of Hindi states but disallows other state languages in other states. Supreme court must state reasons for its stand and what should state governments do to use the state language in high courts? Translate the Indian constitution in the state language? Some states have already done that. Translate state laws in the state language? Some states have already done that too. If the Supreme Court does not come up with rational reasons and what reasonable measures states should take, Indian parliament should direct the high courts to allow state languages. If necessary, parliament should amend the constitution. Supreme court is not beyond the constitution. State governments should press for immediate action.

2-5

State government shall issue all notices, licenses, bills, receipts, etc. in the state official language (SOL).

2-6

State government shall make knowledge of the SOL a requirement for professional licenses if the profession requires communication with state residents. For example, taxi driver licenses shall be issued only to those who pass a language examination proving the ability to read traffic signs and instruction in the SOL and communicate with passengers in the SOL. It is up to the taxicab driver to know the state language, not up to the passenger to know the driver's mother tongue.

3. Local-Body Governments

Local-body governments include city corporations, municipalities and village councils (panchayats).

3-1

All local-body government communications shall be in the state official language (SOL).

3-2

All employees of local-body governments must be proficient in the state official language (SOL). Those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school shall be required to pass a language examination before appointment. Level of the examination shall be commensurate with job duties. Language examinations set up by the state government for its employees shall be used (See 2-2).

3-3

Local-body governments shall issue all notices, licenses, bills, receipts, etc. in the SOL.

4. Businesses

This section applies to businesses with offices/stores in the state. If the business has offices in other states/countries also, provisions of this section apply to only the offices/stores in the state.

4-1

All business communications to state/local-body governments and state residents and businesses shall be in the state official language (SOL). This does not preclude science and medical reports to other professionals in English.

4-2

All employees who have to communicate with state residents, businesses and government must be proficient in the state official language (SOL). Those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school shall be required to pass a language examination before appointment. Level of the examination shall be commensurate with job duties. Language examinations set up by the state government for its employees shall be used (See 2-2).

For example, a sales person or cashier of a store, hotel, restaurant, movie theater or other such businesses must be able to talk, read and write in the SOL. A bus or taxi driver must be able to talk to passengers in the SOL.

A construction worker must be able to talk to fellow workers and supervisors in the SOL. Failure to communicate with fellow workers and supervisors could affect safety at the construction site. It is up to the out-of-state worker to know the state language and not up to the local workers to learn the out-of-state language.

Doctors and nurses must have sufficient proficiency in the SOL for communication with patients. A scientist who works in a research laboratory need not have knowledge of SOL. An engineer who works exclusively in a design office need not have to know SOL but an engineer who works at a construction site must.

4-3

All product labels, bills, receipts, etc. shall be printed/written in the SOL; this does not preclude other languages also in those documents as long as the SOL is the primary language.

4-4

All name boards and signs shall be in the SOL; this does not preclude other languages also in them as long as the SOL is the primary language.

5. Educational Institutions

5-1

All schools in the state must teach the state official language (SOL) as the first language up to high school according to a syllabus set by the state government. Also, SOL shall be an optional medium of education in all schools up to high school. State governments may require that the SOL shall be the medium up to a certain grade (say, for example, fifth grade or eighth grade). English must be taught as second language in all schools. These requirements shall be applicable to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools also.

5-2

SOL shall be an optional medium of education for undergraduate studies in all colleges, including those under the Indian central government. Those who study in SOL medium shall not be discriminated in the selection for post-graduate studies or employment. If necessary, state governments may set up a quota for SOL medium graduates in post-graduate studies and jobs.

Those who study science, medicine and technology in the SOL medium must study English every year of the undergraduate years. SOL medium students in science, medicine and technology must be tested for their ability to understand books on their selective subject in English. This is necessary because we can translate only a small fraction of scientific books and papers, and so students must be capable of understanding English books and papers.

6. Indian Government and Indian Government Enterprises

This section applies to all Indian government offices (central government offices) in the state as well as offices of the "Indian government enterprises" in the state. Indian government enterprises include Indian Railways, Air India, airports, government owned banks, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and other Indian government owned or operated corporations such as the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. From hence forth, when we say Indian government offices or Indian government employees, it includes offices and employees of Indian government enterprises also.

6-1

All communications from an Indian government office in the state to state residents, businesses and governments shall be in the state official language (SOL).

6-2

All employees of Indian government offices located in a state who would have to communicate with state residents, businesses and governments must have sufficient proficiency in the state official language (SOL). A few jobs such as scientists in research laboratories or professors in Indian Institutes of Technology would be exempted from this requirement. State government must approve such exemptions in order that this exemption is not misused to circumvent language requirements.

6.2.1

Those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school shall be required to pass a language examination before appointment in the state. Level of the examination shall be commensurate with job duties. State government must set up, may be, three or four levels of examinations for different job categories. In general, if the job requires high school education or higher then the employee must be proficient at least at the high school level. It is the state government that sets up and conducts the examinations, not the Indian government.

6.2.2

Those who are currently employed in an Indian government office and do not have the required proficiency must take a one year course and pass the language examination or transfer out to a state where they know the language. They cannot be an excuse not to use SOL in Indian government offices.

6.2.3

Argument that Indian government employees are transferred from one state to another and so they cannot be expected to learn the state language is not acceptable. Use of state language is more important than transferring employees. Stop the transfer of employees from state to state. We do not see any paramount need for such transfers. Hire as many employees as possible from the state itself. Most, if not all states, have more than enough qualified candidates to fill the jobs. If someone wants to work in another state as a career-advancing move, it is up to that employee to learn the language and pass the necessary language examination. State government employees find job fulfillment and career advancements working in the same state their entire career. Indian government employees can also do the same.

6-3

Indian government offices in the state shall issue all applications, notices, licenses, bills, receipts, etc. in the state official language (SOL).

6-4

All name boards and signs shall be in the SOL. If the name of a department or enterprise or product is in another language, the equivalent name in SOL shall be used in the name boards and signs, so state residents may understand it. This requirement does not preclude other languages also included in name boards and signs as long as the SOL is the primary language.

Appendix-I A Proposed Course of Action

Here are a few suggestions on how we may encourage politicians to enact and enforce the various provisions of the proposed Language Bill of Rights (LBOR) at the local-body, state and central government level.

Each state may form a Language Bill of Rights Movement (LBORM) to spearhead the activities to encourage politicians to enact and enforce the various provisions of the

Language Bill of Rights. We do not recommend a single All-India movement because each state has different ground realities and different needs/goals. There would also be jockeying for power at the All-India level among leaders from different states. An All-India movement with around two dozen state organizations would be difficult to manage and would move at a slow pace. So the best option is to form independent, state-level movements to act at their own pace.

The Language Bill of Rights Movements (LBORM) should be independent of political parties. No officeholder of political parties at any level should be allowed to hold office in the LBORM or allowed to address public meetings arranged by it. Also office holders in LBORM should be prohibited from addressing public meetings arranged by political parties. There is a real danger of some political party hijacking the LBORM to advance its own political fortunes.

Just before each election, the Language Bill of Rights Movements shall send a questionnaire to all candidates for their response.

Local-Body Elections:

Sample Question: Will you support a bill or ordinance requiring the local-body government to issue all notices, licenses, bills, receipts, etc. in the state official language? If no one proposes such a bill, will you propose one at the local body council?

More questions of this nature covering Sections 3 and 4, as applicable.

State Assembly Elections:

Sample Question: Will you support a bill requiring that all state government employees (including IAS/IPS officers) must be proficient in the state official language (SOL) and that those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school be required to pass a language examination before appointment? If no one proposes such a bill, will you propose one at the state legislative assembly?

More questions of this nature covering Sections 2, 4 and 5, as applicable.

Indian Parliamentary Elections:

Sample Question: Will you support a bill requiring that all communications from Indian government offices in the state, to state residents, businesses and state/local-body governments shall be in the state official language? If no one proposes such a bill, will you propose one at the Indian parliament?

More questions of this nature covering Sections 2, 4, 5 and 6, as applicable.

Tabulate the response of each candidate and publish it in local newspapers at least one week before the election campaign ends (if necessary through paid advertisements). If a

candidate did not respond to a question the answer shall be marked as "no". Voters may consider a candidate's replies as one factor in their voting decision.

We do know that a candidate's position on language may not be the controlling factor in voters' choice of candidates. But it could be a factor and could affect election results. When one candidate promises free television and another does not, some people may vote for the former irrespective of the candidates' position on language. But if both candidates promise "goodies", language may become a factor and may even tilt election results.

Appendix-II **Other Language Speakers in the State**

What about state residents whose mother tongue is not the state official language? Most major languages have a state where they can grow and prosper. There are also some languages without a state of their own. We will discuss both situations.

II.1 Languages with State Patronage

Languages like Marathi, Telugu, Malayalam, etc. have state patronage in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, etc. However sizable numbers of Marathis, Telugus and Malayalis live in other states too. What about them? The state government shall do everything reasonable to help them preserve their language identity in the state. Give their children the opportunity to learn their mother tongue as an optional subject in schools where there are sufficient numbers of students. Provide financial grants to organizations that teach the language to children. Other than that, these other language speakers in the state would have to learn the state official language at school and use the state official language at work.

There are large numbers of immigrants and naturalized citizens of non-French origin living in France; they have to learn French at school and use it at work. So is the case in Germany and many other countries. Gujaratis or Tamils living there would not even think of arguing that they don't want to learn the "language of the soil". Then how can Gujaratis or Tamils living in, say, West Bengal State argue that they do not want to learn the state language Bengali?

Is not asking other language speakers living in West Bengal to learn Bengali like the Indian Government asking everyone to learn Hindi? No, totally different. Bengali is the "language of the soil". Bengalis are living in West Bengal for millennia. Gujaratis, Tamils and others settled there later; some of them decades ago, some of them centuries ago. They have to learn Bengali to be part of West Bengal. The situation with Hindi is different. Hindi is not the language of the soil in West Bengal. It is a language from hundreds of miles away.

II.2 Special Provisions for Languages without a State

There are languages that are the mother tongues of large numbers of people concentrated in a specific geographic area that is not large enough or populous enough to be a state. The state government must enact some special provisions such language for such language minority. Depending on the size of the population and concentration in the geographical area, arrangements may also be made for the language to be used in local government offices (that is, panchayats, municipalities, etc.) Special grants may also be offered to create new literature, music and plays so that the language develops as a modern language. However the people must learn the state official language at schools.

If the number of people speaking the language is small or they are spread around the state, the state government shall do everything reasonable to help them preserve their language identity in the state. Give their children the opportunity to learn their mother tongue as an optional subject in schools where there are sufficient numbers of students. Provide financial grants to organizations that teach the language to children. Other than that, these other language speakers in the state would have to learn the state official language at school and use the state official language at work. Absolutely every effort should be made that the language remains a living language.

Appendix-III Place of English in India

The Comprehensive Programme or The Language Bill of Rights presented in this article is not a programme to get rid of English from our lives. English has a place for international and inter-state communications and for access to advanced science, technology and medical texts and research papers. This is recognized and we do recommend English as second language in all our schools (see Section 5). There is no need for Hindi outside of Hindi states because all Indian schools need to teach English because of its vast literature in advanced science, technology and medicine, and so English can be used for inter-state communications.

UPDATE: Kerala Government Takes Action (February 2014)

In Section 2-2 of the article we wrote, "All state government employees must be proficient in the state official language (SOL). Those who cannot provide school certificates to prove that they studied the SOL at school shall be required to pass a language examination before appointment. Level of the examination shall be commensurate with job duties."

On October 17, 2013, Kerala State cabinet decided that government employees who have not studied Malayalam up to Class X or at the degree level would have to pass a special language examination if they have to get promotion from the entry cadre. The candidates have to pass senior higher diploma equivalent examination conducted by the Malayalam Mission. Necessary changes would be brought in the Kerala Service Rules that govern state government employment. We applaud Kerala Chief Minister Mr. Oommen Chandy and all his cabinet ministers for this welcome decision.

We hope that others states, which have not done this yet, would do the same and pass necessary legislations and/or orders.

There is one more thing. As far as we know, this state government decision does not affect IAS and IPS officers in senior state government jobs. Many of them are from out of state and have very little knowledge of the state official language (SOL). They cannot and do not communicate with lower level officials in the SOL. Until all state government officials, including all IAS and IPS officers, know the language at least up to Class X level, state official language cannot take its due place. We have to put pressure of Government of India on this matter because IAS/IPS officers come under the Government of India. IAS/IPS officers who do not know the state language is the biggest roadblock to state languages becoming state official languages--not just in paper but in reality. Our recommendations in this regard are in Section 2-3 of the article.

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2.

Why India's Official Language Policy is Unfair to Non-Hindi Peoples

Thanjai Nalankilli

[Article discusses the situation in Tamil Nadu because the author is from Tamil Nadu. But the discussion is applicable to all non-Hindi states.]

OUTLINE

1. Why Tamil Nadu Opposes Hindi
2. English should be the Sole Official Language of India
3. Arguments of Hindi Chauvinists
4. How the Hindi-and-English Policy Hurts non-Hindi Peoples
5. Statistical Evidence of how non-Hindi Peoples are Hurt
6. Is Teaching Hindi in Tamil Nadu Schools the Solution?
7. What is the Equitable Solution?

1. Why Tamil Nadu Opposes Hindi?

Speaking at a Public Meeting in Chennai (Madras) on April 29, 1963, the future Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu C. N. Annadurai said, "We will go to every part of Tamil Nadu and tell the people that Hindi is coming and that it is like a thunder strike on the heads of Tamil and Dravidian people.... If Hindi were to become the official language of India, Hindi-speaking people will govern us. We will be treated like third rate citizens".

Annadurai was brought to trial on December 3, 1963 for conspiracy to burn the Indian Constitution. He elaborated to the judge why he opposes Hindi becoming the official language of India. Annadurai said, "Making a language (Hindi) that is the mother tongue of a region of India the official language for all the people of India is tyranny. We believe that it will give benefits and superiority to one region (the Hindi-speaking region).... Danger to the people of Tamil Nadu because of Hindi becoming the official language of India is great".

2. English should be the Sole Official Language of India

Hindi chauvinists' response to opposition to Hindi, from 1950 when the new Indian Constitution crowned Hindi as the official language, is that, "Out of the goodness of our hearts we will give you (non-Hindi peoples) a grace period of 15 years to learn Hindi. For the next 15 years (until January 26, 1965) we will "allow" English to remain as the associate official language. Then Hindi would be the sole official language of India." On the face of strong opposition from Tamil Nadu and the blood sacrifice of more than 60 unarmed civilians who were shot and killed by Indian security forces, the status of English as the associate official language was further extended indefinitely; but the Indian Government would use its power to make non-Hindi workers in the employ of the

Indian Government and its many undertakings do the work in Hindi [Volume 5]. Indian Government undertakings such as the State Bank, Life Insurance Corporation, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, etc. employ sizable number of employees.

Tamil people knew that 15 years or 50 years, making Hindi the official language of India (even with English as the associate official language) would put non-Hindi peoples at a disadvantage vis-a-vis Hindi people. That was why Tamil people agitated over and over again [Volume 3] that English should be the sole official language of India and Hindi should not be given any status above other languages spoken in India. "English Ever, Hindi Never" was the thundering slogan heard on the streets of Tamil Nadu during the Tamil Nadu Students Anti-Hindi Imposition Agitation of January-February 1965.

This is not that Tamil people have a special love for English and hatred for Hindi. This is the only **equitable, fair official language policy** for a country like India that consists of many nations with their different languages, each spoken by tens of millions of people. Like it or not, a knowledge of English is necessary for communicating in the international arena and to be abreast with latest developments in science and technology. It is the ground reality. That is why English is a required subject in every school in India and in almost all over the world. Making English the official language of India does not give an unfair advantage to anyone because it is not the mother tongue of anyone in India with the exception of the tiny Anglo-Indian community. On the contrary, making Hindi the official language gives an undue advantage to Hindi people (approximately 40% of the Indian population).

There is no need for non-Hindi peoples to learn Hindi unless they work in Hindi states. English is sufficient to communicate and do business internationally and within India. C. N. Annadurai argued the unnecessary for Hindi so eloquently through the parable of "Two Dogs and Hindi" [Volume 6: Chapter 2].

3. Arguments of Hindi Chauvinists

Hindi is forced on non-Hindi peoples by the Indian Government because Hindi-belt politicians dominated the Indian Constituent Assembly and now dominate the Indian parliament [Volume 12: Chapter 1].

Arrogant Hindi zealots say, "We are not forcing you to study Hindi but if you want a job with the Indian government or its various undertakings you must know Hindi. Are you too stupid to learn Hindi?"

More milder Hindi chauvinists say, "You, Tamil people are so smart. If you learn Hindi, you would soon surpass us in Hindi." I don't know if Tamils are any smarter than others. It would be utter arrogance on my part to think so. In any case, I would rather that my children spend the time learning computer skills, science and mathematics than studying Hindi. It would be more productive personally and to the society to learn these or other useful skills than to study Hindi. The only reason they may need to study Hindi is because Tamil Nadu is part of India. As I wrote in another article, Bangladeshis do not

learn Hindi because Bangladesh is not part of India; Sri Lankans do not learn Hindi because Sri Lanka is not part of India; Burmese do not learn Hindi because Burma is not part of India. Tamils are forced to learn Hindi (if they want work in Indian Government jobs even within Tamil Nadu be it a railway station in Tamil Nadu or a State Bank in Tamil Nadu or a Life Insurance Corporation office in Tamil Nadu) because Tamil Nadu is a part of India today [Chapter 5: Chapters 1, 2, 3].

4. How the Hindi-and-English Policy Hurts non-Hindi Peoples

Milder Hindi proponents say, "Alright, Hindi is not your mother tongue. So we will let you write Indian Government job examinations in English. See, how generous we are."

I say to them, "That is unfair too. You write the examinations in your mother tongue Hindi which you started speaking from your mother's lap and continue to use it day after day with your neighbors, friends and everyone around. You ask us to compete you writing the examination in English that is a foreign language, as foreign to us as it is to you. How about you writing the examinations in English and we in our mother tongue Tamil? That is the exact mirror image of we writing the examinations in English and you writing them in your mother tongue Hindi. English, which we all learn because it is the international language and the language of advanced science and technology, puts us all in the same playing field. If you love your language so much, then you Hindi people have your own separate comprising of the Hindi states and whichever other states that want to be part of that country. God bless you. Long live and prosper."

5. Statistical Evidence of how non-Hindi Peoples are Hurt

No one but utter fools and foolhardy Hindi zealots would say that Hindi students writing Indian Government examinations in Hindi and non-Hindi students writing them in English is fair. Should there be any doubt here are some numbers to ponder.

Out of the 1885 candidates who passed Indian Government Clerical and Stenographer examinations held in 2002, less than 100 are from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

Why? Are students from these states stupid? No, I doubt it. These states are farther away from the Hindi heartland and their languages are much different from Hindi. That is the reason.

Let us examine it more closely. These are the **examinations taken by Metric Level Grade C Stenographers.**

1. General Studies (100 marks)

Questions in this component will be aimed at testing the candidates general awareness of the environment around him and its application to society. Questions will also be designed to test knowledge of current events and of such matters of every day

observations and experience in their scientific aspect as may be expected of any educated person. The test will also include questions relating to India and its neighbouring countries especially pertaining to history, culture, geography, economic scene, general polity, scientific research etc. Candidate may take this examination in **Hindi or English**.

2. Essays (100 marks)

Candidates will be required to write essay on two topics. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay, to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression. Candidate may take this examination in **Hindi or English**.

Now you see why candidates from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal fared so poorly in these examinations. These are candidates who have completed high school. They are asked to write essays either in Hindi or English. Hindi State candidates write essays in their mother tongue. Candidates from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal can write in one of two foreign languages (Hindi or English). Take two Hindi students with high school education. One writes essays in Hindi and another in English. If both have the same level of knowledge of the subject matter, the one writing in his/her mother tongue Hindi is highly likely to score higher marks. The same thing happens when a non-Hindi student writes the essays in English and a Hindi State student writes in Hindi. It is totally unfair and discriminatory. That was why C. N. Annadurai said,

"We will go to every part of Tamil Nadu and tell the people that Hindi is coming and that it is like a thunder strike on the heads of Tamil and Dravidian people.... If Hindi were to become the official language of India, Hindi-speaking people will govern us. We will be treated like third rate citizens... Making a language (Hindi) that is the mother tongue of a region of India the official language for all the people of India is tyranny. We believe that it will give benefits and superiority to one region (the Hindi-speaking region).... Danger to the people of Tamil Nadu because of Hindi becoming the official language of India is great... "

He was right on target. This is one reason we oppose Hindi as the official language of India, even with English as the associate language. Hindi should not be given a status above other languages spoken in India.

6. Is Teaching Hindi in Tamil Nadu Schools the Solution?

There are some Tamil politicians who owe their positions to Hindi politicians who control All-India parties like Congress and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have made public statements in recent days that Hindi should be taught in Tamil Nadu schools and it would help them competing for Indian Government jobs against Hindi state students. There is absolutely no basis for this. The statistics presented in Section 5 supports this one hundred percent. "Out of the 1885 candidates who passed Indian Government Clerical and Stenographer examinations held in 2002, less than 100 are from the states of

Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal." Hindi is taught in schools as a compulsory subject from either the 5-th or 6-th grade in all schools in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and West Bengal. Candidates from these states did not fare any better than candidates from Tamil Nadu.

Solution to Indian Government's discriminatory, unfair language policy is not teaching Hindi in Tamil Nadu schools but denying Hindi any special status above the other languages. **That is the equitable solution.**

To those who say learning one more language is good, I say, "How many schools in Hindi land are teaching Tamil or Telugu or Bengali?" If someone wants to learn a third language (after Tamil and English), let them choose it, be it Kannada or Punjabi or French or Japanese or Hindi. Only reason Hindi is thrust into Tamil throats is because, unfortunately, Tamil Nadu is under Indian rule controlled by Hindi politicians. As I said before, "Bangladeshis do not learn Hindi because Bangladesh is not part of India; Sri Lankans do not learn Hindi because Sri Lanka is not part of India; Burmese do not learn Hindi because Burma is not part of India. Tamils are forced to learn Hindi because Tamil Nadu is a part of India today."

7. What is the Equitable Solution?

Making Hindi the official language of India, thus giving it a status over and above the other languages and giving Hindi people a special privilege and undue advantages is wrong, unfair and discriminatory. What is an equitable solution? Some politicians from Tamil Nadu say that all languages listed in the Indian Constitution should be made the official language of India. It is impossible and impractical to conduct governmental office transactions and communications in 18 or so languages at this time.

The one and only equitable solution is to make English the sole official language of India until you have actually implemented all 18 or so languages as official languages; Hindi shall NOT be used in Indian government offices until that time; Hindi must be removed as official language until that time.

English is taught in every school in India, it is a necessary language for international communication and advanced studies in science and technology, and it gives no unfair advantage to any linguistic group in India. Ideally Tamils would like to see Tamil as the official language but as part of a multi-lingual country it is not possible. So we offer English as the compromise. It is not because we love English and hate Tamil. What Hindi politicians want is to make Hindi the official language of India and get unfair advantages over others. If they are so proud of their language and could not accept English, I suggest that Hindi states form their own country. Good luck and God bless you.

(First Publication: April 2003)

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3.

English as the Link Language of India - the Only Defense Against Hindi Onslaught

(English is the Only Shield Against Total Hindi Imposition and Imperialism in India)

Thanjai Nalankilli

OUTLINE

1. Background
2. Fight to Keep English in All Indian Government Communications
3. Why We Should Retain English?
 - 3.1 Example-1: Banks
 - 3.2 Example-2: Highways and Rail Travel
 - 3.3 Example-3: User Manuals for Appliances and Electronic Products
4. English is the Only Barrier Against Complete Hindi Imposition, Imperialism and Onslaught
5. Why English and not Hindi?
6. Concluding Remarks
7. A Final Thought

1. Background

"Hindi is as much alien to South Indians as English is to Indians". - Pattom Thanu Pillai (Former Chief Minister, Travancore-Cochin (now called Kerala State))

Most Hindi members of the Indian Constituent Assembly wanted Hindi to become the sole official language of India effective January 26, 1950--that was just 4 years from the time of the debate over official language in the constitution assembly. One member, **V. Dhulekar**, went as far as to say on December 10, 1946,

"People who do not know Hindustani have no right to stay in India. People who are present in this House to fashion a Constitution for India and do not know Hindustani are not worthy to be members of this Assembly. They had better leave." [Constitution Assembly Debates-Official Report, Volume 1 (p 26-27), Lok Sabha Secretariat, 1988].

Many non-Hindi members wanted English to remain as the sole official language or at least as associate official language (along with Hindi). Finally a compromise was reached to keep English as an associate official language for 15 more years, until January 26, 1965. **It was an unfortunate move on the part of non-Hindi members;** they should have been steadfast that English remain as the sole official language of India and all Indian languages have equal status if non-Hindi states were to remain part of the Indian Union. We are suffering the consequences now.

Although the constitution enshrined Hindi as the sole official language from 1965, there was opposition and protests in Tamil Nadu (called Madras State at that time). The then Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru promised that English would remain as the associate official language as long as non-Hindi states want it; the constitution was not amended to make Nehru's promise binding on future Indian governments.

The day when Hindi was to become the sole official language of India, discarding English, came on January 26, 1965. There were unprecedented protests in Tamil Nadu and to a much lesser extent in some other non-Hindi states too. This led to the official language act that would keep English as associate official language. This does not and would not stop Hindi imposition, though. Indian government employees are forced to work in Hindi whether they want or not; it seems to be legal (I am not a lawyer).

Although official language acts requires that English be used in communications with non-Hindi states and peoples, there is a sinister, calculated and unlawful attempt to remove English little by little. This is not done by an act of the parliament but it is done surreptitiously and, in my opinion, illegally by orders and instructions by Indian government ministries.

2. Fight to Keep English in All Indian Government Communications

Removal of English from Indian government offices, communications, signboards, instructions, etc. should be resisted tooth and nail as much as we oppose Hindi imposition. Why?

It is not because we love English, it is because we need a common link language for communication as long as states with different languages are part of the Indian union. Law says it is Hindi and English. If we remove English then it would be Hindi only (unless and until we could do it in all Indian languages).

3. Why We Should Retain English?

3.1 Example-1: Banks

Let us say that all bank forms are printed in Hindi and the state language only. A person from Karnataka goes to West Bengal on business or as tourist. He/she had an emergency and had to withdraw some money there. He is there on a short trip and does not know Bengali; so he had to know Hindi to do the bank transaction. That is the problem. He had to know Hindi and Hindi becomes a must-learn language for anyone who has to travel outside the home state. That is Hindi imposition, thrusting Hindi into non-Hindi throats and that is what Hindi politicians want. That is why we should resist tooth and nail the removal of English.

Our position: Keep all bank forms in state language, English and (grudgingly) Hindi. Amend the constitution to make it state language and English only. No higher status to Hindi above other Indian languages listed in the constitution.

3.2 Example-2: Highways and Rail Travel

Take another example. Milestones, destination names, detour information, warnings along national highways are in Hindi and state language only. A Malayali driving within his/her home state of Kerala would have no problem but if she has to drive in Maharashtra for a one-week visit, she needs to know Hindi; so anyone who has to travel for a brief visit to another state is forced to learn Hindi. This is Hindi imposition. It is not possible to put milestones in all languages. So we need a link language and that link is English. If we allow the Indian government to remove English, we are allowing Hindi imposition. That is why we should vehemently oppose by all means possible any attempt to remove English use at the Indian central government. We want all highway signs in English and state language only. We know Hindi has to be there because Indian constitution says so. So, for the time being, we have to accept state language, English and Hindi. Then we should try to amend the constitution. Until then do not allow the removal of English.

The same problem arises in train travel. If destination names, tickets, reservation forms, warning signs, etc. in trains and train stations are in Hindi and state language only, then out-of-state travelers have to know Hindi and thus it is Hindi imposition. We want India Railways to use English and state language only but we know Hindi politicians would insist on Hindi because they seem to think that Hindi people are the master race of India and they should be able to travel all over India knowing only their mother tongue--the master language Hindi.

We want English and state language mandatory in banks, buses, post offices and everywhere people have to go for their day-to-day living. For the time being we would have to include Hindi also and live with state language, English and Hindi. Amend the constitution to make it state language and English only.

Our position: Keep all highway and rail signs and information in state language, English and (grudgingly) Hindi. Amend the constitution to make it state language and English only. No higher status to Hindi above other Indian languages listed in the constitution.

3.3 Example-3: User Manuals for Appliances and Electronic Products

Indian government is also considering to make Hindi mandatory in all appliance and electronic product instructions, users manuals, etc. but English is optional (Indian Express; August 9, 2016). This is still a panel recommendation only and not a government order.

We want the state language and English mandatory; unfortunately we may have to accept Hindi mandatory also. Suppose I am traveling in Gujarat, my cell phone is lost and need to buy a new one. I must have the English option. Suppose I am working on a three-month project in Andhra Pradesh and purchased an inexpensive television or a refrigerator for my temporary accommodation, I want instruction in English. Any attempt to remove

English instructions for consumer products while making Hindi mandatory is unacceptable and we should resist it. By the way, some countries have users manuals in 4 languages. Section 4 of Chapter 1 discusses this in some more detail.

Our position: Keep all users manuals and labels in state language, English and (grudgingly) Hindi. Amend the constitution to make it state language and English only. No higher status to Hindi above other Indian languages listed in the constitution.

4. English is the Only Barrier Against Complete Hindi Imposition, Imperialism and Onslaught

English is the only things that standing in the way of Hindi thrust into every non-Hindi throat in India. As long as non-Hindi states are part of India, it needs a link language. Unless we keep English as the link language, or at least a link language along with Hindi, Hindi will engulf us all. So we need to resist any attempt by Indian government to remove English from Indian government. All Indian languages must be used in Indian government communications whenever possible (for example, web sites). In other situations state language first (a must), English next and we reluctantly agree Hindi third for the time being while make all efforts to remove Hindi from Indian government affairs. Amend the constitution to make it state language and English only. No higher status to Hindi above other Indian languages listed in the constitution.

5. Why English and not Hindi?

We need to teach English in our schools because advanced scientific information is in English and it is impossible to translate them all to our mother tongue. English is the international language and it will be useful if we have to go outside India for higher studies, employment and just a pleasure trip. Since we thus need English, there is no need for Hindi for non-Hindi peoples. When Bengali people in Bangladesh can do everything with Bengali language and English, why should a Bengali in West Bengal (a state of India) be burdened with Hindi? Unnecessary burden. Is it the price non-Hindi peoples have to pay for being part of the Indian Union?

As you read this article, you may think that I am not opposed to Hindi use in the Indian government. Far from it. I am for language equality. Hindi should have the same status and use as the other languages in Indian government affairs. This article concentrates on keeping English. Our opposition to Hindi as India's official language is discussed in a number of articles in this 14-volumes book, for example Chapter 2 of this volume.

6. Concluding Remarks

As long as we are part of a multi-language country, a link language is needed. English is best-suited as the link language because it is the international language (you can survive in any major city in the world with it) and also the language of advanced science and technology. Unfortunately non-Hindi leaders in the constitution assembly agreed to Hindi as the official language and there is no way to get rid of it except for non-Hindi states to

get out of the Indian Union. Short of that, we have to live with Hindi as official language because Hindi people have the numbers in Indian parliament to block any constitutional amendment. As a pragmatist, I accept Hindi but insist on provisions of the constitution and official language acts to keep English as link language. We want state language and English in all communications but would grudgingly accept Hindi as third language. We shall resist by all means any attempt to remove English from Indian government communications and inter-state business transactions. We need English if we have to travel out of our states to another state or another country. Hindi is of no use outside India or for advanced science and technology.

7. A Final Thought

If Hindi people are so "sensitive" that they do not want to use the foreign English, let them form their own country consisting of the Hindi states only and call it Hindia or whatever; they can do everything in Hindi.

(First Published: February 2017)

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4. **Indian Government Language Policy: Destroy all Languages Except Hindi**

Thanjai Nalankilli

OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. Use Kannada at Home, Use Rajabhasha Hindi in Office
3. Think, Speak and Write in Rajbhasha Hindi in Tamil Nadu
4. Vice-President Wants Limited Use of Mother Tongue (a sure way to destroy our mother tongues)
5. Concluding Remarks

1. Introduction

Indian government's language policy is not just to impose Hindi as official language all over India but also little by little destroy all other Indian languages as useful languages. Once the other languages are rendered useless for business and governmental affairs, Hindi would reign as the sole useful, fully alive language in India. Here are two blatant examples of how the Indian government is trying to make other languages useless.

2. Use Kannada at Home, Use Rajbhasha Hindi in Office

["Rajabhasha" means official language.] A Parliamentary Sub-Committee Meeting was held in Mysore (in the non-Hindi state of Karnataka) on July 5, 2008 to review the "implementation" of Hindi as per the official language policy. There was a large board written in Kannada. It says, "Maneya Vyavahara Kannadadalli, Karyalayada Vyavahara Raajabhasheyalli". It means, "Use Kannada at home, use Rajabhasha in office". They are referring to Hindi as the Rajabhasha.

If you use a language only at home and nowhere else, be it government offices or private offices, the language would simply become useless and wither away. We have seen it happen. Large numbers of Tamils live in countries like Mauritius and South Africa; settled there about couple of centuries ago. Tamil is seldom used in offices or businesses because they are a relatively small minority there and are "recent" settlers. What happened? Very few Tamils know the language; neither do they talk Tamil even at home. This virtual demise of Tamil happened in just a few generations. Indian government is encouraging people to use Hindi (and not Kannada) outside of the home right in the Kannada homeland Karnataka. With no use outside of the home in offices, stores and markets, people would not study Kannada in schools. Kannada would become a useless language, mostly forgotten, in its own land in a few generations. That is what the Indian government wants.

3. Think, Speak and Write in Rajabasha Hindi in Tamil Nadu

["Rajabasha" means official language.] Indian government installed a sign at the Chennai Airport (in the non-Hindi state of Tamil Nadu) in 2012. The sign is in Tamil, Hindi and English. In English it reads, "We feel happy when you speak in Hindi. Think, speak and write in Rajabasha Hindi". So the Indian government is urging people to ignore Tamil and think, speak and write in Hindi. A sure attempt to destroy Tamil in its own land and enthrone Hindi. What will happen if people of Tamilnadu think, speak and write in Hindi? Tamil will die. That is what the Indian government wants. Our own tax monies are used for the destruction of our language.

4. Vice-President Wants Limited Use of Mother Tongue (a sure way to destroy our mother tongues)

Speaking at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (ICFRE), India's Vice President Venkaiah Naidu said, "In our houses we must speak in our mother tongue, in the country we must speak in Hindi" (Indian Express; April 26, 2018). Limiting the use to within the house and using another language for social, business and governmental interactions is a sure way to kill a language. That is what the Vice-President of India wants!

5. Concluding Remarks

In addition to these messages exhorting people not to use their mother tongue outside the house but to use Hindi, Indian government also takes action to limit the use of mother tongues of non-Hindi Indians in government transactions. More and more out-of-state personnel who do not know the state language are posted in Indian government offices, banks, post offices and railway, making it difficult for non-Hindi peoples to do day-to-day activities in their mother tongue.

In summary, Indian government is making every effort to make non-Hindi languages useless. How long will non-Hindi languages survive as vibrant, live, useful languages in Hindi-dominated India?

(First Published: March 2012; Updated: June 2018)

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5. Indian Government and its Broken Promises (Federalism and Linguistic States)

Thanjai Nalankilli

OUTLINE

Abbreviations

1. Introduction
2. Broken Promise 1: Linguistic States
3. Broken Promise 2: Federal Form of Government

ABBREVIATIONS

IAS - Indian Administrative Service

INC - Indian National Congress

IPS - Indian Police Service

SRC - States Reorganization Committee

1. Introduction

Indian National Congress (Congress Party) led the movement against British rule. It was formed in northern India and many in the upper leadership positions were north Indians. In order to form an united front of people from all regions of South Asia, the Indian National Congress (INC) made some important promises to allay any fear that North Indians would dominate the post-British government. This worked and people from all regions unitedly demanded the end of British rule. Once the British government decided to leave South Asia, tone of the Congress Party leadership, dominated by north Indian, Hindi-belt politicians, changed and the promises were reneged. We discuss here two such reneged promises.

2. Broken Promise 1: Linguistic States

Congress Party of India that spearheaded the independence movement during the British rule promised to create linguistic states where state languages will be used in every sphere of life. As independence neared and arrived, the same Congress leaders tried to back off from the creation of linguistic states. Only after mass protests, arrests and some deaths in some regions did India create linguistic states. Even after the reluctant creation of linguistic states, **Indian government is doing everything to sabotage the very purpose of linguistic states.** It requires state governments to appoint a large percentage of senior administrative and police officials (IAS and IPS officers) from other states. These officers do not know the state language; the minimal training they get in state languages is not enough to do state government duties in the state language. Thus the very purpose of linguistic states is sabotaged.

Well before the end of British rule, the 1928 Nehru Committee stated that India would be reorganized on the basis of languages into linguistic states (Motilal Nehru, chairman and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, secretary). Congress Party accepted this recommendation. But, once the British left and Congress Party (Indian National Congress) came to power with Jawaharlal Nehru as Prime Minister, the Indian government tried its best not to form linguistic states. Most people outside the Hindi belt wanted linguistic states and the Hindi-dominated Indian government and Congress Party tried to squash it. There were protests in many regions demanding linguistic states.

Telugu speakers demanded a state of their own and the Indian government opposed it. One leading politician against linguistic states was Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, the same man who was secretary of the Nehru Committee that recommended linguistic states in 1928. There were massive protests in Telugu speaking areas. Protests peaked with the death of Mr. Potti Sreeramulu on the early morning hours of December 16, 1952; he fasted to death against Indian government's refusal to form a Telugu state. Unable to contain the resulting angry protests, Indian government relented and the Telugu state of Andhra Pradesh was formed the next year (1953).

There were marches and protest demonstrations in Malayalam, Punjabi, Marathi, Gujarati, Assamese, Bengali and other language areas also. In some areas police resorted to shooting and many unarmed protesters were injured and some killed and many crores of Rupees worth of properties was damaged (1 crore = 10 million). Finally the Indian government set up the States Reorganization Committee (SRC) and it recommended linguistic states. This resulted in the formation of today's linguistic states. Even after the creation of linguistic states, **Indian government put obstacles to people using their mother tongue to the fullest extent in the linguistic states, except in the Hindi states.** How the Hindi-dominated Indian government is obstructing the very intent of linguistic states will be the subject of another article.

Just 2 examples here: IAS and IPS officers who do not know the state language are posted in senior positions so the state language cannot truly become the official language of states (except in Hindi states because all non-Hindi IAS/IPS officers must pass Hindi examinations). Out-of-state judges are often posted at State High Courts; these judges know neither the state language nor state heritage and culture. So, except in Hindi states, people's language cannot be implemented as court language at the High Court level (except in Hindi states).

RECOMMENDATIONS: Every state government official and judge must have studied the state language up to high school. People who take a crash course of a few months in the state language cannot really perform their duties in the state language.

3. Broken Promise 2: Federal Form of Government

For state languages to play their due role, most powers must stay with the state government; in our opinion, all powers except foreign affairs and military matters must reside with state governments. So people can interact with the government on most

matters in their mother language. Congress Party, in fact, promised a federal structure of governance before the British left South Asia but abandoned as the end of British rule neared. Non-Hindi peoples realize now that we replaced British Rule with Hindi Rule.

On December 13, 1946, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who became India's first prime minister, moved a resolution in the Constituent Assembly that "States shall possess and retain the status of autonomous units, together with residuary powers and exercise all powers and functions of government and administration, save and except such powers and functions as are vested in or assigned to the Union, or as are inherent or implied in the Union or resulting there from." This resolution was accepted by the Constituent Assembly on January 22, 1947 just a few months before British rule ended. This resolution states in no uncertain terms that the states would be AUTONOMOUS UNITS with residual powers. This is a truly federal form of government structure. However when the constitution was adopted in 1950 after the British rule ended on August 15, 1947 and the Hindi-dominated Indian government took power, the form of government was not federal; states were not autonomous units and residual powers rested with the Indian central government. Section 356 of the Indian constitution empowers the central government (union government) to dismiss any state government. The federal government in countries like Canada, United States of America and Switzerland cannot dismiss state governments. More power to Indian government means more power to Hindi politicians because the Indian government is dominated by Hindi politicians.

Here we give a few quotes from the Indian constituent assembly proceedings of November 22, 1949 to emphasize our point that Indian government is not federal in nature.

"Our Constitution is more unitary than federal, and from that point of view I think it is a much greater improvement from the time we set about this task." - **P.S. Deshmukh** (This member is obviously for a unitary constitution and is happy that what started as a federal constitution ended up as mostly a unitary constitution.)

"Situated as we are, we wanted to have a federal constitution but we have produced a constitution that is mostly unitary." - **M. Thirumala Rao**

"This constitution envisages a kind of federo-unitary system of government, leaning largely towards the unitary system." - **Syamanandan Sahaya**

Not only politicians, but political scientists also point to the unitary nature of the Indian constitution. **P. Krishna Mukherjee** wrote in 1954, "the constitution that emerged out of the August deliberations of the constituent assembly of India in January 1950 is a definitely unfederal or unitary constitution." (P. Krishna Mukherjee, "Is India a federation?", The Indian Journal of Political Science, July-September 1954.)

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6. Large Scale Hindi Migrant Flow into Non-Hindi States: Socio-Economic Consequences

Part I LANGUAGE ISSUES, RISE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This is a 3-parts article discussing in some depth the impact of the uncontrolled migration of Hindi people into non-Hindi states. Each of the three parts is mostly self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 6 to 8.]

OUTLINE (Part I)

Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. Why We Oppose Uncontrolled Migration from Hindi States
3. The Language Issue
4. Hindi Migrants and Unemployment of Locals
5. Hindi Migrants in Private Sector Jobs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Large scale, uncontrolled migration of Hindi migrants into non-Hindi states causes several problems: (1) Cultural and language identity of non-Hindi states would be lost in a few decades. (2) Creates unemployment among local residents. (3) Draining social welfare schemes of the more progressive non-Hindi states [state monies would be spent on outsiders coming into the state.] (4) Decline in the standard of living of many non-Hindi states. These aspects are discussed in some detail in this article. An action plan by state governments to stop this uncontrolled migration before it is too late is also recommended.

1. Introduction

India is under the rule of Hindi politicians [Chapter 10]. Powers and matters that used to be under state government control are little by little taken by central government and Hindi politicians control almost all important matters relating to our lives.

Hindi imposition and blatant and systematic discrimination of non-Hindi states economically are well established although most people do not know the extent of the economic plunder [Reference 1]. Most non-Hindi states are discriminated from the early 1950 (soon after British rule ended and Hindi rule started) to today (2019).

This article is about a new threat to non-Hindi states: Large scale, uncontrolled migration of Hindi migrants into non-Hindi states. This is a recent phenomenon but if it is not corrected immediately, it would tear the socio-economic fabric of non-Hindi states.

2. Why We Oppose Uncontrolled Migration from Hindi States

I am from Tamil Nadu. I have never opposed workers from Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal, etc. There are two reasons for opposing Hindi migrants. (1) The large number of Hindi migrants. (2) Unlike migrants from other states, most Hindus do not learn the state language and expect others to communicate to them in their language Hindi because it is the rajabhasha or rashtrabhasha of India (official language or national language).

3. The Language Issue

Anyone working in a state, whether for the central government, state government or private business, must know the state language before they are employed. They must be required to pass a language examination at a suitable level; the examination should be conducted by the state government. Level of examination should be compatible with the job. I expect a taxi driver to talk to me in the state language. When Maharashtra Government required that taxi drivers must know the state language Marathi, General Secretary of Mumbai Taxi Drivers Association in Mumbai opposed the requirement saying, "These are laborers. They cannot go to school and learn Marathi." [Thina Thanthi (Tamil newspaper); January 21, 2010]. If you want to work in our state, you learn our language. You came to our state to make a living. Learn our language. Under pressure from Hindi taxi drivers and powerful Hindi politicians from outside Maharashtra, state government withdrew the language requirement [Thina Thanthi (Tamil newspaper); January 21, 2010; Times of India; January 27, 2010]. Very unfortunate. At the 83rd All-India Marathi Literary Meet held in Pune on March 28, 2010, former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Manohar Joshi, said, "The state government wants to implement laws [making Marathi compulsory] but it is afraid of the Centre [Indian Government]." [The Hindu; March 29, 2010.]

A post office in Chennai (Tamil Nadu) refused to accept a registered mail addressed in Tamil because the post office employee did not know Tamil (Thinathanthi-Tamil Newspaper; June 18, 2019).

There were complaints in rural areas in Karnataka that they could not do banking because bank employees did not know Kannada. So Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara wrote to Indian government Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to ask that all bank employees must gain proficiency Kannada within a set time (TheNewsMinute.com; August 15, 2018). In my opinion the Deputy Chief Minister was too generous; all banking employees must pass language examination BEFORE they are allowed to work in the state. How are bank customers going to communicate if the bank employee is still learning the language? **They come to work in our state to make a living, they must**

learn our language. I will not be allowed to work in a bank if I cannot count. Knowing local language is as important as knowing arithmetic.

A construction worker from Hindi state must be able to understand his/her supervisor and co-workers in the state language; otherwise he/she is a safety hazard. It is not for the supervisor or co-workers to learn Hindi from 1000 miles away, it is for the Hindi migrant to learn the state language where he came to earn a living. A textile mill worker from Hindi state must be able to understand his/her supervisor and co-worker in the state language; otherwise he/she is a safety hazard. It is not for the supervisor or other workers to learn Hindi from 1000 miles away, it is for the Hindi migrant to learn the state language where he came to earn a living.

Indian government's solution is for everyone to learn Hindi. This is simply unacceptable. Those who come into our states should learn our language. **Whether Indian government likes it or not, whether Hindi politicians like it or not, workers should have sufficient proficiency in the state language to communicate with co-workers and customers/clients.** That must be a job requirement. All out-of-state workers must be required to pass a language test BEFORE allowed to work in the state. If the Indian constitution is in the way in implementing language requirement, amend the constitution.

4. Hindi Migrants and Unemployment of Locals

Inflow of migrants from other states should be based on our needs. Migrants should be hired only if qualified state residents are not available. Here is an example from Tamil Nadu. Southern Railways had 1765 openings for electricians, welders and mechanics in Tamil Nadu. 250,000 qualified state residents applied but only 165 were selected and the remaining positions went for North Indians [Thina Thanthi (Tamil newspaper); March 1, 2019]. It is not fair to state residents. What is the need to bring in workers from Hindi states when there is widespread unemployment in the state?

There is disgruntlement against the inflow of Hindi migrants in other non-Hindi states too. Activists in Maharashtra chased away job seekers from Hindi states who came to write employment examinations. Karnataka activists demanded 80% jobs be reserved for state residents. I say that jobs to out-of-staters only if there are no qualified applicants from within the state. It seems that Indian constitution is in the way of state governments requiring that jobs to out-of-staters only if there are no qualified applicants from within the state. Amend the constitution NOW before the Hindi migrant overflow the non-Hindi states.

5. Hindi Migrants in Private Sector Jobs

According to reports, private sectors hire Hindi migrants because they accept lower salaries than locals. So the effect of unneeded Hindi migrants is to lower wages. This is not acceptable. Some of these businesses use (exploit) local resources like water, electricity, minerals, etc. and hire Hindi migrants. The net effect is our resources are used up depleted but locals are not hired to work in these factories. Businesses must be

required to hire qualified local residents at reasonable wages; and hire out-of-staters only if there are no more qualified locals.

Hindi migrants cannot go into Bangladesh or Sri Lanka and take jobs from locals. The same should apply to the states in India too. There should be an inter-state visa system to control inter-state migration. Each state is large enough to be a country and there are substantial cultural, social, educational and economical differences between states to warrant this approach. Indian constitution must be amended.

REFERENCE

1.
<http://web.archive.org/web/20160715145421/http://www.thenewsminute.com/article/unit-ed-states-south-india-can-southern-collective-get-us-better-deal-delhi-46501> (The News Minute: 14 July)

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7.

Large Scale Hindi Migrant Flow into Non-Hindi States: Socio-Economic Consequences

Part II

DECLINE IN STATE ECONOMY AND LIVING STANDARDS

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This is a 3-parts article discussing in some depth the impact of the uncontrolled migration of Hindi people into non-Hindi states. Each of the three parts is mostly self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 6 to 8.]

OUTLINE (Part II)

- 6. Indian Government and Hindi Migrants
- 7. "One Nation, One Ration Card" System Benefits Hindi Migrants and Costs Non-Hindi States
- 8. Standard of Living in Many Non-Hindi States Will Decline
- 9. Why Massive Inflow of Hindi Migrants is Bad for State Economy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Large scale, uncontrolled migration of Hindi migrants into non-Hindi states causes several problems: (1) Cultural and language identity of non-Hindi states would be lost in a few decades. (2) Creates unemployment among local residents. (3) Draining social welfare schemes of the more progressive non-Hindi states [state monies would be spent on outsiders coming into the state.] (4) Decline in the standard of living of many non-Hindi states. These aspects are discussed in some detail in this article. An action plan by state governments to stop this uncontrolled migration before it is too late is also recommended.

6. Indian Government and Hindi Migrants

Indian government is in the hands of Hindi politicians. Indian government is of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis. Indian government's language policies make it possible for Hindi migrants to feel at home in non-Hindi states. Most unreserved railway tickets are printed in Hindi and English (without the state language); so these migrants from 1000 miles away get their tickets in their language while I, who is born here, get my tickets in one of two alien languages. Go to bank. Automated Teller Machines (ATM) always have Hindi but state language may not be there.

7. "One Nation, One Ration Card" System Benefits Hindi Migrants and Costs Non-Hindi States

I repeat from the last section: "Indian government is in the hands of Hindi politicians. Indian government is of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis." The recently introduced "One Nation, One Ration Card" System is another Indian government action that benefits Hindi migrants and drains state government resources.

Recently Indian Government sent an order to state governments to implement "one nation, one ration card" system. Under the system, beneficiaries would be able to buy subsidized food grains from ration shops in any part of the country. Indian government minister said "no poor is deprived of PDS entitlement if that person shifts from one place to another" [India Today, June 29, 2019] (PDS - Public Distribution System). Under this "one nation, one ration card" system, Hindi migrants (even unemployed Hindi migrants in non-Hindi states) could get not only subsidized food grains but also other social benefits offered by states. Many non-Hindi states utilize their tax revenues wisely and offer better social benefits (free laptop computers and bicycles to students, free clothing to poor, etc.) to local people. Large scale Hindi migration into these states is a drain on their resources and would have to reduce or eliminate these welfare schemes; local people would be the losers because of this "One Nation, One Ration Card" scheme. Standard of living in these states would decline.

Beneficiaries of the "one nation, one ration card" system is primarily Hindi migrants. No wonder that Indian government controlled by Hindi politicians brought in this unfair system only after this large scale Hindi migration into non-Hindi states.

8. Standard of Living in Many Non-Hindi States Will Decline

Some of the non-Hindi states like Maharashtra, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have higher standard of living than Hindi states because of the hard work of the state people and wise allocation and utilization of funds by these state governments.

Discussing the standard of living in India, renown economists Professors Jean Drèze and Nobel-Prize winner Amartya Sen wrote in their 2013 book "An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions": "A number of Indian states--Kerala and Tamil Nadu, for example--would be at the top of the South Asian comparisons if they were treated as separate countries, and others--Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, for example--would do enormously worse.

Influx of large numbers of Hindi migrants and the introduction of "one nation, one ration card" system would bring down the standard of living of many non-Hindi states.

9. Why Massive Inflow of Hindi Migrants is Bad for State Economy

Massive, uncontrolled, unnecessary inflow of migrants does not improve the standard of living of local people; instead the long term effect is negative. We want businesses to set up in our states to create high paying jobs to local people. We do not want businesses that employ mostly low wage migrants. While these businesses and migrants deplete our state

resources, they do not contribute much to betterment of the lives of locals. Much of the business taxes go to the central government and these do not come back to non-Hindi states but are transferred to Hindi states. Here are some statistics.

Percentage of tax monies received back from the Indian Government by 3 southern states and 3 Hindi-belt states are listed below [these numbers are from Reference 1]. What do these numbers mean? For example, for every 100 Rupees Indian government collects in taxes from Karnataka, only 47 Rupees is given back to Karnataka in the form of financial grants, central government projects, etc. Similarly, for every 100 Rupees Indian government collects in taxes from the Hindi-belt state of Bihar, 96 Rupees is given back to it in the form of financial grants, central government projects, etc.

----- Non-Hindi Southern States -----

(The southern states of Andhra and Telangana are not included because the data is prior to the year when these two states were created.)

Karnataka ----- Rs. 47

Kerala ----- Rs. 25

Tamil Nadu ----- Rs. 40

----- Hindi-Belt States -----

Bihar ----- Rs. 96

Madya Pradesh ----- Rs. 75

Uttar Pradesh ----- Rs. 176 (yes, it is Rs. 176)

Business taxes that Indian government collects from non-Hindi Southern States goes primarily to Hindi states. That is why we want businesses that create good jobs for state people and not businesses that create jobs for tens of thousands of Hindi migrants. These businesses and migrants consume local resources (minerals, water, for example), crowd our roadways and trains, and pollute our environment. Uncontrolled inflow of Hindi migrants is not good for the host states. State governments should control how many people are allowed into the state and what their qualifications should be. "India is one country, anyone can go and live anywhere" does not apply to a country like India with diverse cultures, different literacy levels and economic conditions.

REFERENCE

1.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20160715145421/http://www.thenewsminute.com/article/unit-ed-states-south-india-can-southern-collective-get-us-better-deal-delhi-46501> (The News Minute: 14 July)

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8. **Large Scale Hindi Migrant Flow into Non-Hindi States: Socio-Economic Consequences**

Part III

Hindi-fication, State Politics and Population Control

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This is a **3-parts article** discussing in some depth the impact of the uncontrolled migration of Hindi people into non-Hindi states. Each of the three parts is mostly self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 6 to 8.]

OUTLINE (Part III)

- 10. Arrogance of Many Hindi Migrants
- 11. Hindi-fication of Major Non-Hindi Cities
- 12. Migrants and Voting
- 13. Population Control
- 14. Recommendations and Action Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Large scale, uncontrolled migration of Hindi migrants into non-Hindi states causes several problems: (1) Cultural and language identity of non-Hindi states would be lost in a few decades. (2) Creates unemployment among local residents. (3) Draining social welfare schemes of the more progressive non-Hindi states [state monies would be spent on outsiders coming into the state.] (4) Decline in the standard of living of many non-Hindi states. These aspects are discussed in some detail in this article. An action plan by state governments to stop this uncontrolled migration before it is too late is also recommended.

10. Arrogance of Many Hindi Migrants

Many Hindi migrants have the attitude that everyone in India should know their language and adjust to their cultural norms even in their own states. Many are genuinely frustrated and annoyed when it does not happen. We have not seen this type of behaviour from any other people, be it, Bengalis, Malayalis, Marathis, Tamils or Telugus ... Here are some examples.

In 2009, students from North Indian states demanded that Holi festival be declared a holiday at **Annamalai University**, Tamilnadu. When Vice-Chancellor Ramanathan refused, these students engaged in violence damaging university property. Holi is a north Indian holiday and is not declared a holiday in any of the four southern states. No

northern university declares holiday for Kerala's Onam or Karnataka's Dasara. Kerala or Karnataka students in northern universities do not go on a rampage.

Another incidence of North Indian students indulging in violence, this time against Tamil students as well as college officials, occurred in **Hindustan Institute of Engineering Technology** in Padur near Chennai, Tamilnadu in November 2008. North Indian students beat up the hostel warden complaining that food is of low quality. Tamil students said that the food is all right and came to the rescue of the warden. "Bad food" seems to be a code word for "South India food" for these North Indian students. Otherwise how would you explain only the North Indian students saying food is bad and Tamil students saying food is all right?

In 2008, a man from Rajasthan State (a Hindi-belt state), living in Tamil Nadu State for 13 years, went to enroll his son at a school. When he submitted his son's **birth certificate** in Hindi, the clerk asked him to submit an English translation certified by a notary. Although getting a notarized English translation is not difficult, the man refused to submit an English translation. Instead of getting an English translation, the man went to the school again and again and demanded that they accept the Hindi translation and each time the school refused. ((NDTV website, December 12, 2008). Will they accept a Tamil birth certificate in Hindi states? No.

A **28-year-old courier** went to deliver a package to a woman living in a high-rise building in Mumbai, Maharashtra State. He talked to her and her sister in Hindi and they asked him to speak in Marathi, the state language of Maharashtra. He argued with them that they should talk in Hindi, and the argument ended with the courier attacking one of the sisters with the pen in his hand. The assault left the woman with a deep gash. Local police registered a case against him and the courier company fired him from the job. (Hindustan Times; February 23, 2019)

A group of North Indian students came to write railway employment examinations in Madurai, Tamil Nadu. After the examination these students went to **Madurai railway station** to go home and boarded reserved compartments in the Nellai Express going to Chennai although they had only unreserved tickets. Tamil Nadu passengers with reserved tickets called authorities. The North Indian students refused to leave the reserved compartments when police asked them to leave. When police evicted them (about 150 students) from the reserved compartments, they started to destroy railway property. Then these students blocked railway tracks and stopped train traffic. (Thinathanthi; November 18, 2013)

A few more similar reports have appeared in newspapers. **North Indian passengers** occupying reserved compartments and refusing to leave it. There is very little possibility of communicating with them because they speak Hindi which most Tamils do not understand. Why should we? We are in our Tamil home state.

Hindis are not arrogant people but this arrogant behaviour in non-Hindi states comes out of the fact that they were told from Day 1 in school that Hindi is the national/official

language of India and other people have to learn their language. They come a thousand miles or so to South India and they have Hindi signs in railway stations, post offices and banks. So they get arrogant and consider them superior to locals. Everything else follows. Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. N. Annadurai put it so well at a public meeting at Chennai Marina (Madras Marina) on April 29, 1963: "If Hindi were to become the official language of India, Hindi-speaking people will govern us. We will be treated like third rate citizens".

11. Hindi-fication of Major Non-Hindi Cities

Hindi migrant population in major non-Hindi cities is increasing at an alarming rate. Instead of learning the local language, these Hindi migrants are starting to demand that Hindi be made an official language of these cities. Hindi taxi drivers in Mumbai opposed a move that all taxi drivers in Mumbai learn Hindi (Section 3). Now Hindi migrants are asking that Hindi be made an official language of Mumbai city.

India belongs to people of all Indian language groups, not just to Hindis. Yet members of parliament are not allowed to speak in any language other than English or Hindi unless they give a transcript of their speech 24 hours ahead; they are not allowed to ask follow-up questions in their mother tongue either. Yet Hindi migrants who came seeking a livelihood want to speak in Hindi in Mumbai city council. Let them learn Marathi.

12. Migrants and Voting

In my opinion only those who have lived in the state for at least 10 years and passed an examination in state language, history and culture should be allowed to vote in the state. They may vote by mail in their home states. Amend the constitution accordingly, if necessary. Immigrants in America should pass a test in English and civics before they can become citizens and vote. I know some would say India is a country and any citizen could live, work and vote anywhere. I disagree. Unlike France, Japan, Poland or 100 other countries, India is a country created by the British, consolidating many nations with distinct cultures and languages. This special nature should be considered in making laws. Each linguistic unit should be treated as a nation with special bonds with the other "nations" within the Indian Union. This would solve a lot of problems including the migration question and we could happily live as one country with no one "nation or region" taking advantage of the others. Almost total devolution of power to states--that is the solution. All powers relating to affairs within the state (education, health, jobs, industries, ...) should belong to state governments.

13. Population Control

Root cause of not only the massive migration problem but also the lower literacy and lower standard of living in Hindi belt states is the uncontrolled population growth there. While South Indian states promoted and succeeded in population control in the 1960s and onwards, Hindi belt states did not pay much attention to it. This uncontrolled population growth has now resulted in large scale unemployment and migration from Hindi states to

non-Hindi states. South Indian states that acted responsibly in the population control area are now paying for the errors and irresponsibility of Hindi belt states. Unemployment of locals is increasing and gains made in standard of living will be eroding because of Hindi migrants entering South Indian job markets and consuming local resources and welfare measures.

Solution is to immediately control the uncontrolled migration from Hindi states to non-Hindi states through migration control by state governments; allowing the number of migrants to job vacancies not filled by qualified local people. Jobs for qualified locals first; jobs to outsiders only if there are more vacancies.

14. Recommendations and Action Plan

Uncontrolled population growth in Hindi states in the past several decades is resulting in large scale migration of Hindi youth into many non-Hindi states. Uncontrolled large scale migration from Hindi states into non-Hindi states will tear apart the socio-economic fabric of non-Hindi states. This MUST be stopped before it is too late. There is not much time. Longer we wait more entrenched the Hindi migrants and more difficult to correct the situation. Act now. Indian constitution should be amended to allow the following state government actions.

1.
State governments may implement a system that would control the number of migrants entering the state for employment. There should be an inter-state visa system to control inter-state migration. Each state is large enough to be a country and there are substantial cultural, social, educational and economical differences between states to warrant this approach. Indian constitution must be amended. Let me make it clear. Any out-of-stater must first obtain a visa from state government to live in the state. We do not want out-of-staters taking jobs from local workers; we do not want unemployed out-of-staters benefiting from state welfare schemes.
2.
Central, state and local governments and private businesses should hire out-of-staters only if there are no qualified applicants available in the state. Adequate wages, commensurate with local cost of living, should be offered to attract local workers.
3.
All who work in the state (whether central, state, local governments or private businesses) must pass a state language examination conducted by the state government. Level of the examination should depend on the level of interaction migrant workers would with local people. Absolutely every worker must be able to read, write and speak in the state language.

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9.

Indian Government False Propaganda: Hindi is India's National Language

Thanjai Nalankilli

FOREWORD

This article discusses whether Hindi is India's national language or not. But there is no question that Hindi is India's official language along with English; Indian constitution says so. This official language status is doing much harm and injustice to non-Hindi peoples. All the other articles in this 14-volume book deal with that aspect.

Indian constitution should be amended to remove Hindi as India's official language until all 22 Indian languages listed in the constitution are accorded the same status as India's official language. If it is not practical to do so now, English shall be the sole official language of India until then. This is the only way to protect the rights and future of non-Hindi Indians. The current language policy is unfair and discriminatory to non-Hindi Indians.

"Making a language (Hindi) that is the mother tongue of a region of India the official language for all the people of India is tyranny. We believe that it will give benefits and superiority to one region (the Hindi-speaking region).... Danger to the people of Tamil Nadu because of Hindi becoming the official language of India is great". - Former Tamil Nadu chief Minister C. N. Annadurai on December 3, 1963.

Now let us discuss the "National Language" controversy.

OPENING REMARKS

Indian constitution does not accord the status of national language to any language. It accords Hindi the status of official language. We present here examples of Indian government false propaganda by President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Speaker of Parliament, CBSE school textbooks and senior officials that Hindi is India's national language. Even the Gujarat State High Court ruled that Hindi is not the national language. But still the false propaganda continues. Should some one sue in the Indian Supreme Court? That is discussed in the FINAL COMMENTS at the end. First we present several examples of the false propaganda. (CBSE - Central Board of Secondary Education)

1)

I heard about a television quiz program seen all over India through satellite system. It was hosted by a popular Hindi movie star. He asks contestants, "What is our [India's] national language?" A contestant answers, "Hindi". The host says, "Correct". Applause, applause. Actually the answer was wrong. Hindi is not India's national language. **India does not have a national language.** Indian constitution accords Hindi the status of

official language, not national language. Yet many Hindi speakers as well as many non-Hind speakers think that Hindi is India's national language.

2)

There is a recent court ruling about the status of Hindi. A man named Suresh Kacharia filed a petition in the **Gujarat High Court** asking it to require manufacturers of packaged items to use Hindi labels because Hindi is the national language. The Gujarat High Court dismissed the petition and said that the Indian government had not issued any notification conferring the national language status to Hindi. [Times of India: January 25, 2010]

Even after the court ruling, many people go around saying that Hindi is the national language of India. It is one thing for ignorant or misinformed people and TV producers thinking that Hindi is India's national language but when a senior Indian government official refers to Hindi as India's national language, that deserves scrutiny.

3)

Children attending Indian government controlled CBSE schools are brainwashed with the falsehood. In 2016, The book "Hiawatha - The Scholar's Mother Tongue" is used as an English text for Class 4 (Unit 7) at CBSE schools. There is a crossword puzzle in that book. Clue for one entry is "This is our national language". It is a five-letter word starting with H. Teachers are going to tell the students that the answer is Hindi (no other Indian language starts with H and has 5 letters). Thus a false information glorifying Hindi is infused into the brains of 4-th grade students. (CBSE - Central Board of Secondary Education). This is after the Gujarat High Court ruling. May be some one should sue CBSE in the Indian Supreme Court to stop propagating the false information that Hindi is the national language of India.

4)

Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Indore held a Hindi Workshop on December 29, 2016 to promote the "national language" (Free Press Journal; December 30, 2016). Future managers who would work all around India were fed the false propaganda that Hindi is the national language of India.

5)

Indian Finance Ministry was developing a symbol for Indian Rupees (similar to the \$ symbol for American dollar). In 2009 an Indian Finance Ministry official said, "The symbol should represent the historical and cultural ethos of India and be widely accepted across the country. The symbol will also have to be in the Indian national language script or a visual representation." What national language is this official referring? India does not have a national language.

6)

At the annual official language conference in June 2010, organized by BSNLC hnenai Telephones, Pradip Kumar Sharma, Deputy Director of Central Hindi Directorate said that people must learn both the national language and the state language. What national

language? Is this high ranking official in the Central Hindi Directorate ignorant that Hindi is not India's national language.

7)

On July 20, 2009, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Member of Parliament (MP) Kalraj Mishra objected to Environment and Forest Minister Jairam Ramesh replying in English to a supplementary question asked in Hindi. To this Ramesh said in Hindi, "this disease of Mulyam Singh Yadav has reached you", referring to another Hindi chauvenist Mulyam Singh Yadav who had often criticized ministers who know both Hindi and English replying in Hindi. This created uproar from some Hindi MPs that Hindi is not a disease. **Vice-President** and Chairman of the Upper House of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) Hamid Ansari ruled that any comment against the national language would be expunged. What national language? A man chairing over the proceedings of the Indian parliament should know Hindi is not India's national language.

8)

On August 13, 2010, there was some conflict and discussion over a member of parliament demanding that questions put to a minister in Hindi must be answered in Hindi if the minister knows Hindi. During this discussion, not only a member of parliament from Bihar, Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav, but even the **speaker of the parliament** Meira Kumar referred to Hindi as the national language [Thina Thanthi (Tamil): August 14, 2010]. May be Hukm Deo Narayan Yada is ignorant that Hindi is not India's national language. Should the speaker of the parliament know a little more about what the constitution says about languages?

9)

Speaking at a function in the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh in February 2018, Indian **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** said, "Young people in the state are eager to learn Hindi and the state is ahead of all others in the northeast in picking up the national language" (NDTV website; February 15, 2018).

10)

In the some of the preceding sections, we had listed several instances of high-level Indian officials wrongly stating that Hindi is India's national language. Here is one more, from the highest official of the Government of India--the President of India.

Speaking at the 2012 Hindi Day (Hindi Diwas), Indian **President Pranab Mukherjee** said, "... in our constitution, Hindi has been given the status of national language" [Yahoo News: September 14, 2012]. The President is either ignorant or lying through the teeth to hoodwink people into believing Hindi is India's national language. By the way, his mother tongue is not Hindi and his knowledge of Hindi is limited. Pranab Mukherjee told an interviewer on May 14, 2009, "If you don't know Hindi, you cannot be a prime minister" [India Today: May 15, 2009], and thus abandoned any hope of becoming the prime minister of India. He seems to be satisfied with the ceremonial post of president which has no real power. Yet, should he not know that Hindi is not India's national language?

Final Comment

Either all these politicians and government officials are ignorant or think that if they repeat again and again "Hindi is India's national language" people would believe that. Another interesting thing is that most of the newspapers that reported these events did not mention that what these politicians and officials are saying is wrong and Hindi is not India's national language.

It is time we, the non-Hindi peoples, stop this false propaganda from Indian government politicians and high-ranking officials that Hindi is India's national language. I ask some lawyer to **file a lawsuit in the Indian Supreme Court** to stop these people from indoctrinating India's youth with false information. It is not freedom of speech. If someone in the street or my neighbour tells this I may argue with him/her but will not file a lawsuit against him. But all these people we mentioned are government officials (President, Prime Minister, Speaker of the Parliament are government officials too) and they are duty bound not to feed people with false information. So the Supreme Court may put an end to it if a lawsuit is filed. I ask some lawyer to file a public interest lawsuit or some organization or political party to hire a lawyer to file a lawsuit. **THIS INDIAN GOVERNMENT FALSE PROPAGANDA SHOULD END.**

[NOTE: Although the Indian constitution accords the official language status to Hindi, there is opposition to it in some non-Hindi states. Hindi is not even taught in Tamil Nadu State schools under state government jurisdiction.]

(First Published: June 2010; Updated March 2018)

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10.
Who Rules India?
Government of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis

Part I
POWER OF HINDI POLITICIANS

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This 4-parts article is included in Volume 12 also because of its relevance there.]

[This is a 4-parts article providing a wealth of information on how Hindi politicians rule all of India, and use that power to relegate and slowly vanquish all other cultures and languages, as well as economically plunder the industrious non-Hindi states. Each of the four parts is self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 10 to 13.]

OUTLINE (Part I)

A Few Preliminary Notes

1. Introduction
2. Hindi Domination of the Indian Government
3. A Pseudo-Democracy?

Do the Indian democracy, constitution of the Republic of India and the political system allow for equal power sharing by the minority nationalities or is real political power concentrated in a certain region of the Indian Union? Are Hindi people the real rulers of India and all others their vassals? Political power of Hindi politicians not only lead to Hindi imposition, it also, equally important, blatant economic discrimination of many non-Hindi states resulting in large scale transfer of wealth from non-Hindi states to Hindi states.

A Few Preliminary Notes

Hindi imposition is the most visible symbol of Hindi rule over non-Hindi peoples of India. Non-Hindi states are also discriminated economically; thousands and thousands of crores of Rupees are moved from non-Hindi states into Hindi states by the Indian government. A more recent phenomenon is the uncontrolled inflow of migrant workers from Hindi-belt states into non-Hindi states. This is playing havoc with the cultural, social and economic fabric of non-Hindi states. (1 crore = 10 million)

1. Introduction

India is a country created by British colonial rulers comprising of many "nationalities". In a country comprising of many nations, one or more nations should not discriminate

against the others or overlord the others. Today's India is the remnant of "British India", the geographical area conquered and ruled by the British in South Asia as their prized colony. Today's India comprises of many nations/peoples, namely, Assam, Bodoland, Kerala, Punjab, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, etc. etc. Does each of these nations/peoples participate equally in the Indian government, or does one or more of the nations/peoples dominate the others and run Government of India for their own benefit? During the British colonial rule it was easy to say British India was run by the British, serving their self interest. Has the independence of India from British rule merely changed the rule from British hands to someone else? In essence, have Hindi people become the de facto rulers of post-British India?

The largest language group in the Indian parliament is Hindi politicians. Although Hindi members did not have a majority in the constitution assembly, non-Hindi members, especially those from South, after heated arguments against making Hindi the official language of India, gave in to Congress Party leadership and accepted Hindi. Once Hindi was enthroned thus, it became impossible to amend the Indian constitution relating to the official language policy because an amendment requires two-thirds majority in the parliament and Hindi politicians can easily block any amendment. Irrespective of party affiliations, I have never seen a Hindi MP (Member of Parliament) vote against Hindi imposition or speak against the injustice of keeping the language one region (namely, Hindi) as the official language over the entire India.

Has any Hindi politician ever supported views like Tamil Nadu's L. Krishnaswamy Bharathi: "To allow Hindi to sit on the throne in Delhi as sole monarch is patently discriminatory and will have the effect of reducing the non-Hindi people to second-rate citizens"?

With the constitution on their side, Hindi parliamentarians have enacted laws, rules, regulations and government orders that are patently discriminatory to non-Hindi peoples. Most employment recruitments for jobs with Indian government and its undertakings are held in Hindi and English thus giving Hindi students a definite advantage. Once in the job, employees are forced to study and do some percentage of work in Hindi [Volumes 4 and 5 provide plenty of examples].

2. Hindi Domination of the Indian Government

Though there are different political parties among Hindi people that fight with each other for the "right to govern India", once it comes to protecting Hindi hegemony over the non-Hindi peoples, they stand together. Have you ever seen any major Hindi politician opposing Hindi imposition? Have you ever heard a Hindi politician criticize Indian government for discriminating many non-Hindi states economically?

Even with solidarity among Hindi politicians on key issues protecting Hindi hegemony, they do not have a majority in the Indian parliament. Then, how are they, with only about 40% of Indian population, able to perpetuate and strengthen Hindi domination of the Indian Government? Constitutional amendment requires two-thirds majority in

parliament. So constitution cannot be amended without the support of Hindi members of parliament. As we said in the last paragraph, "Have you ever seen any major Hindi politician opposing Hindi imposition? Have you ever heard a Hindi politician criticize Indian government for discriminating many non-Hindi states economically?"

Even pro-Hindi laws favouring Hindi states can be passed with support from a small number of non-Hindi members of parliament in the name of party unity or offering ministerial positions or other favours. Getting 10% support from non-Hindi politicians is not difficult as we have seen again and again. This is the political reality. This is the political dynamics.

The 40% Hindi politicians stand together across party line and take a united stand. They easily acquire support from 10% or more politicians from non-Hindi states in the name of party loyalty or personal favours.

3. A Pseudo-Democracy?

This article is about the power of Hindi in Indian politics. It undermines democracy itself. Democracy is not the rule of the majority (or the largest group). Democracy in its true sense is the rule of the majority (or the largest group) with minority rights protected*.

That is not what is happening in India; Hindi politicians have set up constitutional provisions, rules, laws and regulations that deny the language rights of non-Hindi peoples as well as economically discriminate most non-Hindi states.

[* I believe that India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru said something to this effect. Whether he said this or not, this is what democracy should be.]

Part II of the article is the next Chapter (Chapter 11)

(First Published: July 2019)

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11.

Who Rules India?

Government of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis

Part II

DISPLAY OF HINDI POLITICAL POWER

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This 4-parts article is included in Volume 12 also because of its relevance there.]

[This is a 4-parts article providing a wealth of information on how Hindi politicians rule all of India, and use that power to relegate and slowly vanquish all other cultures and languages, as well as economically plunder the industrious non-Hindi states. Each of the four parts is self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 10 to 13.]

OUTLINE (Part II)

4. Why Kamaraj Could Not Become Prime Minister
5. Karnataka's Deve Gowda Reads his Speeches in Hindi
6. Sonia Gandhi Interrupted for Speaking in English
7. Why Pranab Mukerjee Cannot Become Prime Minister of India?
8. Chandrababu Naidu Learns Hindi
9. President Abdul Kalam Asked to Learn Hindi

4. Why Kamaraj Could Not Become Prime Minister

Chief Minister Kamaraj of Tamil Nadu was one of the most powerful regional leaders ("regional bosses") in the Congress Party from the 1950s through mid-1960s. This was the time when Congress Party was the unchallenged victor in Indian political arena. It was able to form government on its own without help from any other party. It also formed all state governments except for Kerala until 1967. Kamaraj was often called the kingmaker because he played a pivotal role in the choice of Indira Gandhi and later Morarji Desai as Prime Ministers of India.

Once, in frustration Kamaraj told Tamil Nadu officials, **"if you get a letter from the Indian Government in Hindi, tear them and throw them away"**. In spite of all his political clout within the Congress Party, he could do nothing about Hindi imposition or the siphoning off of vast amounts of money from Tamil Nadu into the Hindi belt. A pragmatic politician that he was, he knew his place in the Indian hierarchy. He could be a king maker but could not become the king himself. Once he told reporters, "I cannot become India's Prime Minister because I know neither Hindi nor English". Even this changed in a few decades that only someone who knows Hindi could become Prime Minister of India; knowledge of English is not enough (see Part II: Sections 7).

5. Karnataka's Deve Gowda Reads his Speeches in Hindi

No single party gained a majority in the 1996 parliamentary elections. A number of diverse political parties joined together and formed a coalition government under the name of United Front government, with the Congress Party supporting it from outside the coalition. The coalition was loaded with southern members of parliament and Hindus had only a small number of members in it. Also, all dominant parties in the coalition were regional parties from non-Hindi regions. This situation forced the election of a southerner, Karnataka's H. D. Deve Gowda as Prime Minister.

Deve Gowda knew that he should not upset Hindi politicians. When the time came for him to address the people in radio and television on Independence Day, he asked his aides to write a speech in Hindi. Then the Hindi words were written down in his native Kannada language and he read the speech. This speaks volumes of the power of Hindi in Indian politics.

Deve Gowda was the first (and as of now (2019) the only) Prime Minister not to know Hindi, in all of the 70 years of post-British India. Some years later another South Indian politician, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, also became Prime Minister, but he knew Hindi well, spoke in Hindi in many public meetings and allotted large sums of money for Hindi development and propagation.

6. Sonia Gandhi Interrupted for Speaking in English

Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's widow Mrs. Sonia Gandhi had ambitions to become the Prime Minister of India. She was born and brought up in Italy, she moved to India after her marriage and became an Indian citizen. Her command of English is excellent. She did not seem to have made much effort to learn Hindi until after her entry into politics a few years after her husband's death. Her command of Hindi is limited and she could not make a speech in Hindi. When she was the opposition leader, she gave a 20 minute speech in English in parliament. Ruling party members shouted, "Hindi mein bolo," (Speak in Hindi), Sonia replied, "Agli baar koshish karoongi," (I will try next time) [The Telegraph-online edition; April 25, 2000]. She knew the power of Hindi in Indian politics and meekly agreed to try Hindi the next time.

7. Why Pranab Mukerjee Cannot Become Prime Minister of India?

In the 1960's knowledge of English or Hindi was considered a requirement for Prime Minister position (see Kamaraj's statement in Part II: Section 4). From around 2009, **knowledge of Hindi seems to have become a necessary requirement for Prime Minister position.**

Mr. Pranab Mukerji is from the non-Hindi eastern state of West Bengal. His knowledge of Hindi was limited. He was a minister in Prime Minister Manmohan Singh government. He did not aspire to become prime minister of India because, he said, "If you don't know

Hindi, you cannot be a prime minister" (Indo-American News Service (IANS); May 15, 2009). That is wrong. That is discriminatory. That is undemocratic. Mr. Mukerji did become President of India, a ceremonial position with no real power. The real power is with the prime minister.

8. Chandrababu Naidu Learns Hindi

This message of Pranab Mukherji has rung into the ears of ambitious non-Hindi politicians. Telugu speaking Andhra Pradesh's Chandrababu Naidu, with aspirations for the Prime Minister position started learning Hindi. India eNews website wrote on April 4, 2008, "Now that N. Chandrababu Naidu is looking for a larger role in national politics, the former Andhra Pradesh chief minister is dead serious about learning Hindi."

Chandrababu Naidu had learned his administrative skills as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Now, to move on to Prime Minister of India, he may want to learn foreign policy, defense and other issues confronting India. Instead, he was learning Hindi because of the political power of Hindi in India. What a waste of time.

Actually the arrogance and chauvinism of some powerful Hindi politicians is wasting the time and energy of not only prime minister candidates but also so many millions of students and workers. Hindi is a compulsory subject in most states. Hindi is a compulsory subject in all schools under Indian government jurisdiction. Hindi has nothing to offer to non-Hindi students but for the fact that Indian government forces its non-Hindi employees to learn Hindi. There is no benefit for non-Indian-government employees. Time learning Hindi in schools could be used to teach computer languages or mathematics or science. Far more useful subjects that would help India prosper. Hindi imposition is keeping us down.

9. President Abdul Kalam Asked to Learn Hindi

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was selected as presidential candidate by the ruling party in 2002. He started making courtesy calls to political leaders. He called upon Mulayam Singh Yadav, President of Samajwadi Party and former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh (Hindi state) on June 17, 2002. Soon after this meeting Mr. Yadav told reporters that Presidential candidate Dr. Abdul Kalam had told him that he would learn Hindi within 3 to 6 months (Thinathanthi-Tamil Newspaper, June 18, 2002). Knowing Mulayam Singh Yadav's chauvinism (see Part III: Section 13), we wonder what happened at the meeting between Dr. Kalam and Mr. Yadav. Was Dr. Kalam pressured into studying Hindi?

Dr. Abdul Kalam did not come from a political background. He was one of the few presidents who was not a politician. He was a scientist. He was primarily responsible for India's nuclear missile development program and did an excellent job at that. Is the new president's time better spent on learning Hindi? Instead he should be reading up on the Indian constitution, presidential powers and responsibilities. But this is India. Anything to assuage the egos of Hindi politicians who, unfortunately, wield immense power over India.

Part III of the article is the next Chapter (Chapter 12)

(First Published: July 2019)

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12.
Who Rules India?
Government of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis

Part III
HINDI VERSUS NON-HINDI POLITICIANS: AN IMBALANCE IN POWER

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This 4-parts article is included in Volume 12 also because of its relevance there.]

[This is a 4-parts article providing a wealth of information on how Hindi politicians rule all of India, and use that power to relegate and slowly vanquish all other cultures and languages, as well as economically plunder the industrious non-Hindi states. Each of the four parts is self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 10 to 13.]

OUTLINE (Part III)

- 10. K. M. Paniker's Prophetic Statement from Kerala
- 11. Role of Non-Hindi Ministers in Indian Government
- 12. Discrimination of Non-Hindi Ministers and Members of Parliament
- 13. Mulayam Singh Yadav (Hindi) vs Muthuvel Karunanidhi (non-Hindi): A Showdown Over Hindi

10. K. M. Paniker's Prophetic Statement from Kerala

K. M. Panicker of was a great administrator, scholar and diplomat of his time. He hailed from the south Indian state of Kerala. In the late 1920s he was offered a senior position in the then princely state of Kashmir (This was before the British left South Asia). When asked why he took that offer, he said, "I had serious doubts whether it would be right to exchange service to the country (India) for service to the prince (king of Kashmir)... I considered various aspects of the problems and came to the conclusion. First, it was clear to me that a Travancorean (parts of Kerala was then called Travancore) like me was unlikely to attain any position of vantage in Indian affairs." How prophetic he was!

When I mention Mr. Panikar's prophetic words, some Hindi friends point to me that there are and have been many cabinet ministers and even a few Prime Ministers from non-Hindi states, even from South and East India. True, at one time there were more ministers from Tamil Nadu than any other state. These ministers are allowed to serve as ministers as long as they carryout policies set forth by Hindi politicians. Let me elaborate on it in the next section.

11. Role of Non-Hindi Ministers in Indian Government

Politicians from non-Hindi states have been appointed as ministers and even Prime Minister as long as they carry out policies set forth by Hindi politicians. Here is an example.

India's Parliamentary Committee on Official Language made 117 recommendations on the use of Hindi in 2011. President of India accepted 110 of these recommendations in 2017. Some non-Hindi politicians criticized that government is unfairly imposing Hindi (The Hindu, April 25, 2017). The relevant point here is that the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was chaired by the Home Minister **Mr. P. Chidamparam**, who is from the non-Hindi state of Tamil Nadu. When asked about the recommendation, Chidamparam said that the recommendations were written by the drafting sub-committee chaired by Satyavrat Chaturvedi. He added that 28 of the 30 members of the committee belonged to Hindi speaking or Hindi knowing states, and the proceedings of the committee were conducted in Hindi [a language he did not know well]. He said that the chairman cannot overrule the views of the overwhelming majority. (Deccan Chronicle; April 26, 2017) This makes our point. Chairman is from a non-Hindi state but the committee is stacked with pro-Hindi members whose vote the chairman cannot overrule. The non-Hindi chairman is only a figure head.

So the number of non-Hindi ministers or number of non-Hindi officers makes no difference. Hindi hegemony will continue. Also, non-Hindi politicians have served as Finance Minister of India but economic policies that hugely favoured Hindi states (as discussed in Part IV: Section 16) continued during their tenure too.

We quote in this context the late **C. N. Annadurai** (Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu 1967-1969): "Southern India is discriminated in industrial development.... Instead of building an iron plant, the ministry of heavy industries is given to a south Indian. Is it political skill?" (C. N. Annadurai in his maiden speech at the Upper House of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) in 1962).

12. Discrimination of Non-Hindi Ministers and Members of Parliament

Non-Hindi ministers who know only their mother tongue are made ineffective unless they know Hindi or English. Parliament speaker ruled that ministers could speak only in Hindi or English in parliament.

M. K. Alagiri from Tamilnadu was appointed Chemicals and Fertilizers minister in mid-2009. He does not know Hindi and his English proficiency is limited. When he asked permission from the Speaker of Parliament, Meira Kumar, to speak in his mother tongue, she told him that ministers would be allowed to speak only in English and Hindi (Members of Parliament can speak in their mother tongue if they provide a copy of the entire speech at least 24 hours before). He suffered in silence; he sat quiet or simply did not attend parliament.

Non-Hindi members of parliament (MP) have to give one-day prior notice and text of their questions or speech if they want to speak in their mother tongue. They cannot ask secondary (or supplementary) question in their mother tongue.

Also, in parliament, Hindi speeches are simultaneously translated to English, English speeches to Hindi, and non-Hindi speeches (with one day prior notice) to English and Hindi. So non-Hindi members of parliament without sufficient knowledge of Hindi or English cannot effectively represent their voters. **This is not democracy, it is Hindi-crazy.** A more detailed discussion of Hindi hegemony in parliament may be found in Volume 7.

13. Mulayam Singh Yadav (Hindi) vs Muthuvel Karunanidhi (non-Hindi): A Showdown Over Hindi

Tussle between Mulayam Singh Yadav (Hindi state of Uttar Pradesh) and Muthuvel Karunanidhi (Non-Hindi state of Tamil Nadu) over Hindi in the Year 2000 tells us a lot about the power of Hindi politicians. Mulayam Singh Yadav had served as Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for many terms and was the President of Samajwadi Party, a popular regional party in Uttar Pradesh. Muthuvel Karunanidhi had served as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for many terms and was the President of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), a popular regional party in Tamil Nadu.

In 2000, American President Bill Clinton visited India and spoke at the Indian Parliament. As customary, Prime Minister Vajpayee was to speak after President Clinton. There was a tussle between some senior Hindi and non-Hindi politicians as to whether Vajpayee should speak in English or Hindi. Vajpayee's mother tongue is Hindi but he also knew English well. Mulayam Singh Yadav threatened to boycott the Clinton-Vajpayee speeches if the latter spoke in English. Vajpayee succumbed and spoke in Hindi.

The anti-Hindi stalwart who had been arrested and jailed many times for protesting against Hindi imposition, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Muthuvel Karunanidhi issued a statement that he was hurt by the Prime Minister's speech in Hindi in the historic event of an American President speaking before the Indian parliament (Thinathanthi-Tamil newspaper; March 23, 2000). Karunanidhi was the president of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and DMK was part of the ruling coalition government of Prime Minister Vajpayee. Why didn't Karunanidhi withdraw support for the Vajpayee government and topple it? Most likely Hindi members of parliament from other parties might have come to support Vajpayee because they do not want a government toppled for displaying Hindi supremacy before the world press that came to cover the Clinton visit. Karunanidhi could at least have asked DMK members to boycott the parliamentary session so the world press would report the opposition to Hindi supremacy within India. Karunanidhi did not.

It is always the case. In the name of party discipline or coalition etiquette or personal respect to some leader, non-Hindi politicians back down and give up after fiery oratory or

statements. This is our curse. Have you ever seen a Hindi politician oppose Hindi imposition or oppose the economic benefits Hindi states enjoy at the expense of some non-Hindi states? Never.

During the Indian Constitutional Assembly debates in the late 1940s, many non-Hindi Congress politicians spoke against making Hindi the official language of India but in the end voted for it obeying Congress party leaders. This was the curse and the beginning of Hindi supremacy in India. Had those non-Hindi politicians stood up to Congress leadership, language situation in India might have been different. What is needed now is a non-Hindi peoples' massive demonstrations against Hindi rule over India. Nothing else would save non-Hindi people's future welfare in India.

Part IV of the article is the next Chapter (Chapter 13)

(First Published: July 2019)

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13.
Who Rules India?
Government of the Hindis, by the Hindis, for the Hindis

Part IV
NON-HINDI PEOPLES EXPLOITED UNDER THE RULE OF HINDI POLITICIANS

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This 4-parts article is included in Volume 12 also because of its relevance there.]

[This is a 4-parts article providing a wealth of information on how Hindi politicians rule all of India, and use that power to relegate and slowly vanquish all other cultures and languages, as well as economically plunder the industrious non-Hindi states. Each of the four parts is self-contained and may be read as a separate article but the best way is to read them in sequence, Chapters 10 to 13.]

OUTLINE (Part IV)

- 14. Evidence of Hindi Rule over India
- 15. Hindi Imposition
- 16. Economic Plunder of Most Non-Hindi States
- 17. Hordes of Hindi Migrants into Non-Hindi States
- 18. Final Thoughts

14. Evidence of Hindi Rule over India

Proof that it is the Hindi politicians who control the Indian Government, irrespective of which party is in power or who the Prime Minister is, is in what the Indian Government does. In a multi-national, multi-ethnic country created by erstwhile colonial rulers, whether one nationality/region controls the government or not can be verified easily. If the government consistently favours one nationality/region in economic affairs, that is proof enough that that nationality/region is controlling the government. If the language of one region is imposed on others, that is yet another evidence. If we examine the situation in India, ever since the British colonial rulers left in 1947, we see that the Hindi-speaking regions (called Hindi belt or Hindi heartland) is favoured economically by the Indian Government and Hindi language is imposed on others.

15. Hindi Imposition

Hindi imposition is well established and will not be discussed in any length here. Readers are referred to the other volumes of this series. Suffice is to say that Hindi imposition affects every non-Hindi person in India from cradle to grave. Hindi imposition gives undue advantage to Hindi peoples in admission to elite educational institutions and jobs. This affects the very future of non-Hindi peoples and gives a leg up for Hindi people.

Numerous examples of all types of Hindi imposition may be found in Volumes 4, 5 and 10.

Even in plain day-to-day living, Hindi people have more advantage than non-Hindi peoples. A Hindi person can go to any bank or railway station in India and conduct transactions in his/her mother tongue, even if the bank or railway station is a thousand miles from home. But a non-Hindi person may not be able to conduct transactions in his/her mother tongue in a bank or railway station in the same street as his/her house because there may not be an employee knowing the state language in that banks and railway stations.

Just read this news: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara wrote to Indian government Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to ask the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) to conduct examinations for banking jobs in Kannada also (now it is only Hindi and English). He also pointed out that bank challans ("deposit form"), application forms, procedural documents and ATM kiosks are available only in English and Hindi. He added that this is a "systematic discrimination". He also wanted all bank employees who do not know Kannada must gain proficiency within a set time and passing a proficiency test must be a condition for continued employment. (TheNewsMinute.com; August 15, 2018). So a Hindi person go to any bank a thousand mile from his home and do everything in Hindi but a non-Hindi person can walk 1000 feet from his home to a bank and may not be able to talk to a bank employee or fill a bank form or use a Automated Teller Machine (ATM) in his/her mother tongue. This is the display of Hindi power all over India.

A post office in Chennai (Tamil Nadu) refused to accept a registered mail addressed in Tamil because the post office employee did not know Tamil (Thinathanthi-Tamil Newspaper, June 18, 2019). It is humiliating that I cannot send a registered letter in my mother tongue in a post office located in the capital city of my state. This is the power of Hindi politicians over non-Hindi India.

Readers are referred to Volumes 4, 5 and 10 for more details and examples.

16. Economic Plunder of Most Non-Hindi States

Here are some statistics from Reference 1 (The News Minute: 14 July 2016). Percentage of tax monies received back from Indian Government by 3 southern states and 3 Hindi-belt states are listed below [these numbers are from Reference 1]. What do these numbers mean? For example, for every 100 Rupees Indian government collects in taxes from Karnataka, only 47 Rupees is given back to Karnataka in the form of financial grants, central government projects, etc. Similarly, for every 100 Rupees Indian government collects in taxes from the Hindi-belt state of Bihar, 96 Rupees is given back to it in the form of financial grants, central government projects, etc.

----- Non-Hindi Southern States -----

(The southern states of Andhra and Telangana are not included because the data is prior to the year when these two states were created.)

Karnataka ----- Rs. 47

Kerala ----- Rs. 25

Tamil Nadu ----- Rs. 35

----- Hindi-Belt States -----

Bihar ----- Rs. 96

Madhya Pradesh ----- Rs. 75

Uttar Pradesh ----- Rs. 176 (yes, it is Rs. 176)

These numbers tell the story. Non-Hindi South India is looted economically and the loot transferred to Hindi belt states. You may find more on blatant and large scale economic discrimination of non-Hindi states in Reference 1.

17. Hordes of Hindi Migrants into Non-Hindi States

A separate article is published on this topic in another volume. Here is a summary of our views.

Uncontrolled migration of hordes of migrant workers from Hindi belt region into non-Hindi states is a recent phenomenon. This is playing havoc to the economic and social fabric of non-Hindi states. State governments have no power to limit the inflow of migrants into the state. It increases unemployment among longtime state residents and also suppresses wages of local workers who are fortunate enough to have jobs. When lakhs of state youth are unemployed and willing to take any job, what is the need to bring in Hindi state migrants to take up factory, construction and hotel/restaurant service jobs. Indian constitution needs to be amended to give state governments power to limit the number of migrant workers in the state.

All jobs in state government and state government owned enterprises should be reserved for longtime state residents. At least 90% jobs in Indian government and Indian government owned businesses like banks, insurance, railway and factories should be reserved for state people. At least 90% of jobs in private businesses (factories, hotels, restaurants, shops, services) should be reserved for state people unless evidence is presented that there were no qualified local applicants.

This may require amendment of the Indian constitution but there is very little chance of such an amendment because of opposition from Hindi politicians. What can we do?

18. Final Thoughts

Something needs to be done to break the Hindi political hold over India. India should be ruled for the benefit of all the peoples of India, not primarily for the benefit and welfare of Hindi people, and any leftover for non-Hindi peoples. It is time for non-Hindi peoples

to discuss, debate and chart a plan of action to end Hindi rule over India and create a political structure that benefits all the states. It is wise to devolve power to states as autonomous units and let each state decide their own future and run their own affairs with only a minimum powers vested with the central government. It cannot be left to politicians alone. Politicians, academics, intellectuals, students, workers, farmers and every citizen should participate in this effort.

REFERENCE

1. The News Minute: 14 July 2016
(<http://web.archive.org/web/20160715145421/http://www.thenewsminute.com/article/united-states-south-india-can-southern-collective-get-us-better-deal-delhi-46501>)

This is the end of the fourth part of this 4-parts article.

(First Published: July 2019)

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14.

Triple Injustice of Hindi in Indian Government Offices

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This article is included in Volume 5 also because of its relevance there.]

OUTLINE

1. Introduction
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1. Introduction

Hindi was made the official language of India on January 26, 1950 against the opposition of Tamil people and leaders. Most Congress Party members from Madras Province (that included much of today's Tamil Nadu State) opposed Hindi vehemently during initial discussions. But they voted for it in the end, obeying Congress Party leadership that was in the hands of Hindi belt politicians [You can read the Constituent Assembly Debates in "Constituent Assembly Debates: Official Report; 12 volumes, covering 1946-1950"]. The dark cloud of Hindi set over the Tamil people from then on until this day.

Hindi is thrust forcibly into unwilling non-Hindi throats with the full force and power of every Indian Government apparatus. Hindi is forced into non-Hindi regions in many forms: Hindi signs on everything owned or operated by Indian Government, even forced Hindi on the labels of lifesaving drugs (no Tamil on the labels though), non-stop Hindi on broadcast television and government operated cable and satellite television, and through government jobs. This article discusses how Hindi in Indian Government offices is adversely affecting non-Hindi employees, **even if they learn Hindi**.

2. The Triple Injustice of Making Hindi the Official Language of India (Even if one Learns Hindi, Still is Disadvantaged in Indian Government Jobs)

2.1 The First Injustice: Entrance Examinations for Indian Government Jobs

Many Indian Government job entrance (or selection) examinations are held in English and Hindi. (In recent years SOME examinations are also held in mother tongue). This

gives a great advantage to those whose mother tongue is Hindi. They write the examinations in their mother tongue while non-Hindi people have to write in one of two foreign tongues--English or Hindi. Even if you learn Hindi at school it does not put you at par with those whose mother tongue is Hindi. This is unfair and unjust [Volume 1; Chapter 2 - "How India's Official Language Policy is Hurting Non-Hindi Peoples"]. All job examinations should be held in mother tongue to make everyone equal.

2.2 The Second Injustice: Hindi Examinations at Indian Government Jobs

Let us say that you pass the job entrance (selection) examination and got a job at an Indian Government office. Non-Hindi employees are required to attend Hindi classes and pass Hindi examinations even if they are working in non-Hindi states. Those who do not do so are reprimanded and there are many cases where salary increments and promotions were withheld until they pass the examinations. A memorandum sent to Southern Railways managers says, "Employees not attending Hindi training classes **should be severely dealt with**" [Volume 5; Chapter 16].

A Hindi friend once argued with me that Indian Government is very fair because it does not require knowledge of Hindi to get the job but only asks [actually forces] employees to study Hindi after getting the job. He is not right on two counts. As discussed in Section 2.1, conducting entrance examinations in English and Hindi is unfair to non-Hindi candidates. Secondly, requiring that non-Hindi employees attend Hindi classes and pass Hindi examinations is totally unfair. This requires time commitment on the part of non-Hindi employees to study Hindi at some point in their life (during school years or later after joining Indian Government service). While non-Hindi students are studying Hindi, which has no use except for the fact that Hindi is forced on them as India's official language, Hindi students can utilize that time to study more useful subjects like computer programming or advanced English which would be useful in a broader array of careers anywhere in the world. Don't you think non-Hindi peoples are getting the short end of the stick?

2.3 The Third Injustice: Working in Hindi at Indian Government Offices

Alright, let us say a non-Hindi employee has (1) passed the selection examination in spite of the injustice of holding many of those examinations in English and Hindi only, and (2) then studied and passed the required Hindi examination in order to get annual salary increment. What then? Is it all fair and just from then on? No, it is not. Non-Hindi employees have to jump through hoops all through their career at Indian Government offices.

All Indian Government offices are required to carry out certain percentage of work in Hindi. At the time of writing this article, 55% of work should be done in Hindi in Indian Government offices located in Tamilnadu. This puts a great burden on non-Hindi employees even if they know Hindi. Hindi employees are working in their mother tongue while we are required to do more than half the work in their mother tongue. However much you have learned Hindi, you cannot think and work in Hindi as fast and as well as

those whose mother tongue is Hindi. You are stressed out more and are less productive. In spite of these discriminatory disadvantage many non-Hindi employees still excel in their jobs, that is a testament to their hard work while Hindi employees have it a little easier and less stressful. Is it not unjust? Is it not unfair?

3. Language of the Ruling Race becomes the Official Language

Ruling race always want to do government business in its mother tongue. When the French ruled Puducherry, all official work there was done in French. When the Portuguese ruled Goa, all official work was done in Portuguese. Now central government work in Puducherry and Goa are done in Hindi because Hindi people have become the rulers.

"If Hindi is made the Union official language,... it gives to a section of the people of India the position of a **ruling race**". - Former Madras State Chief Minister C. Rajagopalachari (Rajaji) [Rajaji was a supporter of Hindi but changed his mind after seeing its discriminatory effect on non-Hindi peoples.]

4. Injustice Behind Closed Doors

Most people do not know the injustice meted out to non-Hindi employees behind the closed doors of Indian Government offices. Many think that there is no Hindi imposition because they do not know non-Hindi employees are forced to work in Hindi. There is nothing the non-Hindi employees could do because they need the job to feed and take care of their families. They grit their teeth, bite their tongues and do the work in Hindi while the Hindi employees sitting next to them are doing their work in their own mother tongue. It is more stressful and more time-consuming to non-Hindi employees. If a Hindi employee and a non-Hindi employee of comparable intelligence, subject knowledge and work ethics were competing for a promotion, the Hindi employee is likely to get it because he is working in his mother tongue. Yet, many non-Hindi employees do rise up because of their harder work and perseverance. It is like a star marathon runner running with a five-kilogram weight tied to his ankles. If he still wins the race it is his higher athletic prowess, hard work and perseverance.

Let us hope that one day we could end the Hindi rule over us. Let that day come soon.

(First Published: September 2008)

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15.

Can Illegal Hindi Imposition Beyond the Constitution be Stopped?

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This chapter is included in Volume 11 also because of its relevance there.]

Hindi is not only imposed according to the Indian constitution and official languages acts, sometimes Hindi is imposed illegally beyond constitutional provisions and laws.

Now and then when a chief minister or senior politician brings forth the illegality and raises the voice, Indian government withdraws the order. As time passes by, another illegal order is issued. Some illegal orders go unchallenged and remain in effect for years, presumably for many more years to come. Examples of such illegal orders are in some of the chapters in this volume.

Why should non-Hindi ministers, politicians and social leaders have to jump through hoops and do somersaults again and again to stop these illegal actions? We have other things to do. Improving the economy, health and education in our states instead of spending time to complain about illegal Hindi imposition. While our leaders have to waste their time on these illegal orders, people issuing these orders and the Hindi zealots are having a good laugh how we scramble to stop these illegalities, some times successfully, some times unsuccessfully.

It is like a thief robbing 10 houses and got caught with stolen goods of two of the houses. Stolen goods from the 2 houses were returned and the thief was let go free. He goes on robbing houses. Others see what happened and some of them go on robbing too. When caught with stolen good, they would give the stolen goods back but continue to rob in the next months and years. Solution is to arrest, prosecute and jail the thieves. That would end the robberies in the town or village.

We have to put a stop to the few Hindi zealots in the higher or lower levels of Indian government issuing illegal orders. The minister or official who initiated and implemented the illegal action should be dismissed, forbidden to work for the Indian government in the future, fined heavily depending on the salary, and all pensions withheld. Only then such illegal actions may stop. Not only the minister/official who issued the illegal order but senior officers (say IAS level officers) who implement illegal orders should be punished to a lesser degree, for example, deny promotions for 5 years. This is the only way to stop illegal orders, not only on Hindi imposition but other areas also.

I am not a lawyer. These are my personal opinions. I hope that some patriotic lawyers would review my views and sue the Indian government if necessary and possible. Also explore if ministers/officials who issue illegal orders (on Hindi imposition or other areas) can be criminally prosecuted leading to jail sentences. If it can be done, that would surely stop the illegal orders.

(First Published: April 2017)

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16.

Please File Law Suits Against Indian Government for Violating Official Languages Act and Rules

Thanjai Nalankilli

[This article is included in Volume 11 also because of its relevance there.]

OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. Project Names in Hindi
3. Hindi Proficiency Examinations for Government Employees
4. Eliminating English as a Link Language

1. Introduction

I am not a lawyer. What I am presenting here are a layman's views. I hope some lawyers would review them and see if the activities listed here violate India's Official Languages Act and Rules. If any of them do, I plead that some lawyer or group of lawyers file lawsuit(s) in the appropriate courts to stop the illegal activities.

2. Project Names in Hindi

Indian government is naming its projects in Hindi, for example, "Atal Grameen Griha Yojana" and "Ayushman Bharat"; we have listed 47 such names in Chapter 7 of Volume 11. We have no problem if they use these Hindi names in Hindi documents but Indian government is using them in English documents also. So those who do not know Hindi cannot understand the English document. The very concept of two-language formula (Hindi and English) is that any Indian citizen can communicate with Indian government in Hindi or English. So, in my opinion, using Hindi names violates the two-languages formula.

We do not object to Hindi names in Hindi documents. All English documents must have English names; it is all right to have Hindi names in parenthesis as long as Hindi documents have English names in parenthesis. Other language documents must have project names in that language, with English and Hindi names in parenthesis. For example, a Telugu translation of an Indian government document must have the project name in Telugu with English and Hindi names in parenthesis.

3. Hindi Proficiency Examinations for Government Employees

My understanding of India's language policy is that no Indian citizen would be forced to learn or use Hindi. Yet Indian government employees are forced to learn Hindi and pass Hindi proficiency examinations. This puts extra burden on non-Hindi employees. Government employees would be reluctant to sue the Indian government for fear of

retaliation. Can some patriotic lawyer(s) file a lawsuit to remove forced Hindi in Indian government offices?

4. Eliminating English as a Link Language

Indian constitution and Official Languages Act specify that Hindi and English be the official languages of India. All interstate and centre-state communications would be in Hindi and English if at least one of the states is a non-Hindi state. This assures that no one is forced to learn Hindi. A recent panel recommendation is violating this requirement.

A panel set up by Indian government Human Resources Development Ministry recommended that all goods, products, equipment and medicine sold in India, irrespective of where they have been manufactured, must have labels, instructions, brochures and operating manuals in Hindi and another regional language, and optionally English. (Indian Express; August 9, 2016)

Most likely the regional language would be the state official language. We are pleased that at last the state language would be mandatory. However, on closer look, it is a sugar coated poison pill. English is optional while Hindi is mandatory. I am a Tamil living in Tamil Nadu. I am jumping with joy that Tamil, my mother tongue - a language I understand, is there. But look at what happens to a Malayali from Kerala or a Bengali from West Bengal or a non-Hindi individual from a non-Hindi state on a short (few days) visit to Tamil Nadu for a vacation or business. Suppose he/she has to buy unexpectedly a medication and that medication label is in Tamil and Hindi. The same person goes to Maharashtra. The medication label is in Marathi and Hindi. So multi-state travelers have to know Hindi because learning the language of every state he/she is impractical. Some Hindi states would choose to exclude English to force people traveling to Hindi states just for a few days to learn Hindi. There are quite a few Hindi chauvinist chief ministers.

This panel recommendation is **a sneaky, cunning way** to eliminate English as a link language as thus elevate Hindi as the SOLE link language, thus violating Indian constitution.

This illegal panel recommendation must not be allowed to take force. It must be opposed, if necessary, through our courts. All labels must include English and state language; we will reluctantly agree to Hindi as third language in labels because the Indian constitution gives official language status to Hindi.

(First Published: September 2013; Updated December 2016)

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